Daily Report

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Israel

The government officially informed the United States and Russia that it will not participate in two committees of the upcoming multilateral talks—committees in which diaspora Palestinians have been invited to take part, Jerusalem TV reported.

Egypt

The government released and deported four Israelis who were jailed on espionage charges, MENA reported. Two Egyptians connected with the case were also freed. Citing the reasons for the government's action, a "responsible source" said the "future of efforts to achieve regional security and peace" was taken into account, adding that "assurances were received that such actions will not be repeated in the future."

Libya

In a speech broadcast by Tripoli television, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi addressed the second ordinary session of the Basic People's Congresses and discussed national finances, the Lockerbie affair, and nuclear and chemical weapons. In an interview with London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI on the Lockerbie dispute, Foreign Minister al-Bishari called on the United States, Britain, and France to enter into a "direct dialogue" with Libya, adding that such a dialogue would offer the "best solution."

Algeria

Three persons died and three others were wounded after a "powerful" bomb exploded at Constantine University, Algiers radio reported. Security authorities said the three killed by the bomb were the same individuals who planted it. Other disturbances around the country, including demonstrations and arson, were reported by Algiers radio and television.

Iraq

In a letter to the UN secretary general, Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn accused the CIA of smuggling "large quantities" of counterfeit currency into Iraq in order to "sabotage" its economy, INA reported.

Algeria

Clashes, Violence Reported Nationwide

Constantine Bombing Kills Three

LD0605224892 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 6 May 92

[Report from Constantine by radio correspondent Abdelouahab Said]

[Excerpts] A powerful bomb exploded this evening at about 1515 today [as heard] in the bathroom on the 14th floor of the administrative tower of Constantine University. The explosion killed three people, and three others were slightly injured. [passage omitted]

The gendarmerie and security authorities started an investigation very quickly after cutting the electric power and evacuating the building, and after the immediate intervention by the civil protection men on the spot.

According to the security authorities, the bomb killed the three men who planted it. Their corpses were extracted from the rubble caused by the explosion.

It remains to be said that the material damage is considerable. The explosion caused extensive damage on the 14th floor, where walls were cracked and windows smashed. Splinters from the explosion damaged cars parked nearby.

The university community is very upset and terms this deed as criminal.

Deaths, Arrests in Badjarrah

LD0605212792 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Badjarrah District yesterday witnessed acts of sabotage aimed at state properties. The security forces arrested many perpetrators of these acts which resulted in the death of two people. Here is Rachida Hamadi:

[Hamadi] One person was killed [as heard], two were injured, and 48 people were arrested including the ones you are seeing [on video] following the acts they perpetrated yesterday in Djenan el-Mabrouk, in Badjarrah. One of these was carrying a knife and a camera which they were reportedly using to take photos of policemen to take revenge against them later on.

[Unidentified official] The disturbances which took place in the Badjarrah quarter were caused by a limited number of people who were not followed by the citizens, in a way which brought the situation under control quickly. These sabotage acts resulted in setting fire to three buses belonging to the urban transportation agency and a truck. These were set on fire with three incendiary devices thrown at them by persons with police records, despite the presence of passengers on these buses. The police intervened twice, in the morning and at 1800.

Unrest Noted in Several Regions

LD0705005192 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] In Abbadia municipality, Ain Defla, a group of people tried to organize a demonstration in protest of the decision by the wilaya authorities to close the el-Houda Mosque, where lessons subversive to public order were given, according to an APS report.

Laraba municipality also witnessed disturbances and attempts to set fire to offices and public institutions. According to APS, a group of citizens assembled in front of the el-Chouhada Mosque in Laraba at 2100 [2000 GMT]. They erected barricades in the streets, and other elements set fire to the administrative wing of the new primary school and two elementary schools. No substantial damage was caused.

Destructive acts targeted against institutions, shops, and cars were also reported. Police headquarters in the Ain Kercha District, Oum el-Bouaghi, were the target of an attack last night by unidentified persons who fled. According to a police officer in the district, investigations and searches are continuing to arrest the defendants.

APS quoted an informed source who said that security forces arrested a person who entered the el-Fath Mosque yesterday in Bab el-Oued and used a loudspeaker, which is used for calling prayers, to incite people to assemble and carry out acts of destruction.

APS stated that the person in question threw a homemade bomb at the security forces when they came to arrest him on France Boulevard in Bab el-Oued.

In Tlemcen, gendarmes arrested a person who owns a commercial shop and who was importing weapons illegally. The gendarmes confiscated the weapons in his possession.

Gendarmes also apprehended three persons for possession of automatic weapons. The first was in Stile, el-Oued municipality; the second in el-Oulma, Setif; and the third one in Tazmalt, Bejaia.

In Batna three persons were arrested red-handed for possessing 30 homemade bombs and one automatic weapon.

Religious Affairs Ministry on 'Sabotage'

LD0705004492 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] In a statement given to APS today the Ministry of Religious Affairs condemned the acts of disturbance and sabotage which are directed against public and private property these days and which led to the loss of innocent lives of security and Army personnel, who were entrusted with looking after the security of the country and people.

The same statement appealed to the Muslim Algerian nation to rise to the necessary level of perception of its religion and to understand it correctly. The statement pointed out that Algeria urgently needs security and stability, without which life cannot continue properly.

Commentary Criticizes Violence

LD0605213892 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 6 May 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] A crazy, frightening campaign preceded 5 May, which was expected to be the day when Algeria would experience acts and disturbances more violent than the ones it had witnessed on 5 October 1988. Naturally, the campaign was signed by the adventurers who reject the rule of law and the establishment of the state of justice for reasons which are contrary to their interests.

This day unmasked these people, and their attempts remained limited to some skirmishes which have been opposed by the security men and the citizens. This day was the opposite of what the perpetrators of biased rumors had hoped for, and it showed the people's awareness, wisdom, and attachment to social peace. Who among us would not reject criminal acts or would not stand against aggression toward others' rights and the sabotage of state properties at a time when yesterday's desperate attempts focused on the farmers markets, the means of transportation, and even schools and universities and sites of science and knowledge?

This shows the unlimited desire to deprive our children even of science and light. It was a day which opened hope for a life of concord and peace because it rejected the path of adventure and the avidity of those who are resentful and ungrateful to the country.

Prosecutor Seeks Admiralty Trial Death Sentences

LD0605153292 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 May 92

[Excerpts] The Blida military court this morning continued the trial of the group of people involved in the [Algiers] Admiralty case. The Republic's prosecutor is requesting five death sentences. Here are more details from radio correspondent Fodil Saadedine:

[Saadedine] The trial of those involved in the attack against the headquarters of the Admiralty is continuing at the Blida military court. The Republic's prosecutor for the military court was heard at this morning's session, and he requested the death sentence against five defendants, who are as follows: Sid Ali Lahrani, a civilian who is still at large; Noureddine Rahmouni, a military man; Ahmed Fodil, also a military man; and Abdelouahab Redouane and Noureddine Ouahabi, both civilians. He also requested a 10-year prison sentence for Mourad Tefka, a military man; Mohamed Mansouri, and Madani Labidi. [passage omitted] We learned from the military prosecutor's office that the sentences will be issued at about 1800 at the Blida military court.

In another development, French lawyer Jacques Varges was allowed to attend the trial of the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] leaders by Blida military court as an observer. This was announced by Ali Yahia Abdenour, one of the FIS lawyers, to AFP.

[Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic at 1400 GMT on 6 May adds in another report on the trial: "The chief of the ship repair unit [at the Admiralty] was put under preventive detention immediately after he was heard as a witness under the charge of violating military orders."]

Three Sentenced to Death

LD0605193392 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in French 1800 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] The verdict in the trial of those involved in the Algiers Admiralty attack has just been handed down, and we have finally learned it. Let's then immediately start with the verdict.

Mansouri and Labidi are acquitted. Tekfa is sentenced to five years imprisonment. Lahrani, who is still on the run [word indistinct] is sentenced to death in absentia. Rahmouni and Fodil, both military men, are also sentenced to death. Ouahabi and Redouane have been given life in prison.

The defense is waiting for the views of the defendants before lodging an appeal with the Supreme Court.

FLN's Mehri on Returning State Property

LD0605181692 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in French 1130 GMT 6 May 92

[Interview with Abdelhamid Mehri, National Liberation Front secretary general, by unidentified correspondent on the Algerian Government's policy on returning state property; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Mehri] We are ready to return property, which is manifestly in the country's interests. We have no problem with this subject despite the understandable practical problems that this will create. We are prepared to do this. It is just the way in which this was done. They wanted to give the impression that the FLN [National Liberation Front] absolutely would not budge on this problem and that a decision with the government's authority was necessary to recover its property.

[Correspondent] What steps will the FLN take?

[Mehri] We have been waiting. When I asked, we were told: We will get in touch with you. We will wait until we see the government communique.

Egypt

Israeli Spy Suspects Released, Deported

NC0605155292 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1457 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Cairo, 6 May (MENA)—The Higher State Security Prosecutor's Office has ordered the release of six defendants, four Israelis and two Egyptians, and the deportation of the Israeli defendants.

The six are all the defendants in Higher State Security Case No. 85 of 1992. A statement by the Higher State Security Prosecutor's Office said that the release order was issued yesterday.

The statement pointed out that the defendants, whose interrogation began as soon as they were detained in February, were released because the interrogation was completed. The decision to deport them is in line with the requirements of national security and considerations relating to national interests.

A responsible source told MENA that diplomatic efforts and contacts were held in the past few weeks during which assurances were received that such actions will not be repeated in the future. The source said that the future of efforts to achieve regional security and peace was taken into account.

It should be noted that the four Israelis which the Higher State Security Prosecutor's Office ordered to be released and deported are Faris Subhi Misrati, Fa'iqah Faris Subhi Misrati, Majid Faris Subhi Misrati, and David Ovitz. The Egyptians are Sa'id 'Abd-al-Jalil al-Qattan and Shu'ayb al-'Utayfi.

Higher State Security Case No. 85 of 1992 is connected with spying for Israel.

The security forces arrested the defendants in February 1992 on charges of collecting information about the country's economic and political situation and about some prominent Egyptian figures in order to supply this information to Israel.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Discusses Lockerbie, Chemical Weapons

LD0605102492 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 1856 GMT 5 May 92

[Speech by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi at the second ordinary session of the Basic People's Congresses on 5 May; place not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Good evening. Allow me to intervene. In my talk this evening, at the start of the People's Congresses which have authority, due to begin this week, after a day, two, or three days. [sentence as heard].

The meetings of this session are important, because at this session the internal and external policies of the Jamahiriyah state will be decided. It will be different from local sessions because ordinary local sessions are held throughout the year and during these the congresses discuss the local policies in their regions at the levels of districts, branches, municipalities, and so on. However, it is during a final session such as this that the internal and foreign policies of this state, which is run by the masses, will be drawn up for the period of a year.

I do not want to return to the agenda that is in front of you, except in a limited way. This agenda concerns you, the Secretariat of the General People's Congress. This subject is purely for the Basic People's Congresses. I shall talk about things which I believe to be a part of my revolutionary duty to talk about to the Libyan people, because I believe these must be emphasized. The most important of these is the people's authority. Actually, I was upset recently when I heard comments—excuse me for saying that they were absurd—even from some people who are defending you, particularly with regard to the issue of the confrontation between Libya and the traditional colonialist countries. Even the people who are defending Libya have written things which are provocative as far as we are concerned. They are ignorant of what the Jamahiriyah and the people's authority stand for. They do not even know what People's Congresses are; they refer to them as people's committees when they talk to us. Furthermore, they consider al-Qadhdhafi the head of state, they consider 'Abd-al-Salam Jallud the deputy head of state, and they consider all those who were formerly members of the Revolution Command Council to be officials responsible for running agriculture, industry, politics, health, education, services, production, and so on. [passage omitted]

The world has heard that there are popular councils—those which used to exist in the Soviet Union, the soviets. They have heard about the municipal councils system. They have heard about local elections. They have heard why Libya does not have elections. As for the others, that is, the enemies, they described us a dictatorship—the Libyan dictatorial regime. Truly, this provokes me and every free Libyan. We must prove, first of all, to the Arabs who are the nearest to us and then to the rest of the world the authority of the people and the sovereignty of the Libyan people. We should prove that the Libyan people are masters on their own soil and that they act with complete freedom—a freedom that is restricted only by the laws which are issued by the people. The Libyan people respect and hold these laws sacred because they are the ones who issued and formulated them. Apart from this, no one can issue a decision or a law or formulate a policy except that which has been passed and approved by the people.

Afterwards, when they were faced with the fact that I am not a head of state—especially after recent events—and that we cannot alter the laws, that we cannot indulge in administrative and political affairs, and that my actions are purely revolutionary and inciting, they changed their

tone and asked: Who then is governing Libya? You read in the newspapers—the nearest newspapers to us—asking who is governing Libya and who issues decisions in Libya? They also said: Show us who is issuing the decisions. You bring us an official letter from al-Qadhdhafi. Al-Qadhdhafi cannot write an official letter. He can write a personal letter to the U.S. president or the British president [as heard] or an Arab president or an African president or an Asian persident, but he cannot write an official letter. Official letters can be written only by the people authorized by the Libyan people, namely the Popular Committee of the People's Bureau for External Liaison. That is who is responsible for foreign relations. [passage omitted]

The Soviet Union faced the same question. Realizing that the question is difficult and that the masses cannot be defeated by arms, the Soviet Union was dissolved peacefully. The same thing will happen to the United States. It is composed of nationalities, minorities, and sects; it is a human mosaic. The deployment of the Marines is futile. The U.S. Army is deployed in the streets of Los Angeles. Yes, they could be useful in stopping looting and arson, but the Army and the Marines are incapable of checking the national aspirations of blacks or the other races. If they want to be independent they will be independent despite the armies. What we are seeing is only a security operation, but to compel a nationality to be obedient to another by naval force and soldiers is impossible. It can be done on a temporary basis but.... [incomplete sentence as heard]

The Ottoman armies failed to force the Arab nation to remain under Turkish or other colonizing nationalities. The same applies with the 'Abbasid and the 'Umayyad states and all the empires in history.

This is the era of the Green Book. The Green Book now has become like the sun, a briliant truth. What is going on in the world today confirms all the predictions of the Green Book. The Green Book is different from all other books. Other books are written by people from their own thoughts, according to their own perceptions, and designed by them. The Green Book, on the other hand, is a resume of history. It followed the historical development of mankind and realized that an era will come, one called the era of the jamahir in which all the people want to rule themselves by themselves. No longer is anybody ruling them, neither foreign colonizer nor native tyrant. Prisons have failed, the police have failed, the armies have failed, and oppression as a whole has failed in the face of the jamahir.

I say it is imperative to emphasize the people's authority in Libya, for we have to confirm to the entire world with full confidence that the world as a whole will be jamahiri. Every sunrise brings this fact closer and confirms it, confirms that the jamahir is currently marching toward the assumption of power.

The masses used to obey Napoleon. Napoleon brought the whole of Europe to submission. He even had ambitions in the east. He came to Egypt. [passage omitted]

Regrettably, they still do not know how to be partners. They are still asking for higher wages. The solution which we can offer the workers of Germany who are on strike today is: They should demand to be partners and take their share of the production, and they should become partners and not wage earners. They must get this. The German Government should solve its dispute with the millions of striking workers and avert the economic and political collapse of the country. [passage omitted]

There are no elections in Libya because the entire people are in power. We do not want to elect people to rule us. We—the entire people—are in power. This is why Libya has no elections. [passage omitted]

There is a parliament in Los Angeles; they also have elections. Why do people come out into the streets to burn and destroy things? The number of those detained [in Los Angeles] has reached 15,000. Thus, the experiment that calls for one man to rule another or to form a government to rule a people or to form a party to rule a people has ended. That era is gone.

I wish in this session for foreign and particularly Arab journalists to be invited to come and follow up the sessions of the General People's Congresses. [passage omitted]

I want you to confirm it to them. That would be better than me explaining it. [passage omitted]

If a state of emergency is declared in Libya for any reason, it cannot be declared (?except through) over radio and after a meeting of all the General People's Congresses, who comprise all Libyans from the age of 18 and up, male and female. They are the ones who declare the state; they can declare the emergency and it is they who shoulder the responsibility. If there is going to be fighting, the entire Libyan people make the decision on fighting. Fighting must not be imposed on the Libyan people. Fighting is a hard thing. [passage omitted]

Even this issue of confrontation between Libya and the customary imperialist states, no one can speculate on it. Dangers and responsibilities can result from it. I tell you, the Libyan people [words indistinct] the Libyan people should meet. You must not come to me and say: Mu'ammar, beware; be strong; don't hand them over; this must not happen and if you do we.... [incomplete sentence as heard]

No! Handing them over or not handing them over—do not tell me this. Tomorrow you should attend the popular congress and there you can decide whatever you like and bear the responsibility of the decision. My job is to explain to you the things that I came to know. I will explain them in the next page [as heard]. [passage omitted]

Conditions in Libya have improved over the past 20 years from nothing to very good or excellent and with a sparse population. What I mean is: How do we spend 2 billion dinars a year—$6 billion a year, in international terms? How does this small state the needs of which have been fulfilled spend this? We can confirm that we spend money on housing because we are building 250,000 houses. Because we are now building roads—Libya is the No. 10 country as far as roads are concerned; these very large, desert roads—we can say that we spend money in that sector.

This spending is totally incomprehensible. It is absurd to think that a sparsely populated state that has fulfilled so many of its needs spends more than 2 billion dinars a year. We must reconsider where these funds are going. You must know that there is overspending; you will realize this when you go to audit and find that the accounting is not as it is in the agenda. It must be sector by sector. For instance, we hold a session on agriculture with all the congresses discussing agriculture from start to finish and defining its assets and liabilities. Then we take industry, education, health, and so on. I consider this a reasonable suggestion.

You will discover absurd spending practices when you begin examining these things. Where is this money going? You see states near us the revenues of which are limited and the populations of which are large doing well. How can this be? How do they build a house in Tunis? How much does it cost to build a house in Tunis? How much does it cost in Libya? How much does a house cost in Malta? How much is a house in Libya? What materials are used to build a house in Tunis? In Malta? In Libya? You must investigate and compare. I mean that [word indistinct] the General People's Congress sets the general policy and leaves these things to experts. It is absurd that we spend 2 billion dinars a year.

If you don't mind, I would like Dr. 'Abd-al-Hafid al-Zulaytini, governor of the Central Bank of the Jamahiriyah, to discuss the report [words indistinct] to give me a little break. Please Doctor [words indistinct] this issue of revenues and expenditures.

[Al-Zulaytini] In the name of God. Good evening. The report by the Central Bank of the Jamahiriyah will be submitted to the Basic People's Congresses. Among other things, the report covers foreign currency revenues obtained during the 1991-92 financial year and ways in which these revenues were spent in various sectors and on various requirements...

[Al-Qadhdhafi, interrupting] Address them in layman's terms, without banking jargon.

[Al-Zulaytini] How was the foreign currency which we obtained through oil exports used last year? How did we spend these oil revenues?

The report also details commercial banking activity in the Jamahiriyah last year. Commercial banks supply bank credits for various loans through funds obtained from the savings of individuals or from deposits made by companies and bank cooperatives. The latter invest them in various economic fields. This report paints a comprehensive picture of how these funds are used.

The report gives the Basic People's Congresses a clear picture of the public debt. This is important because the Central Bank of the Jamahiriyah was entrusted with following up loans which the Jamahiriyah (?granted) to the outside world. Here is a report on the measures which we adopted last year to follow up this issue and the results we reached. The Central Bank controls the currency policy and, as such, insists on forwarding to the Basic People's Congresses a number of recommendations.

In general, we noticed economic activity and an expansion in several fields of production and services last year. We found that the country's gross domestic product last year reached about 8.6 billion dinars, compared with 7.8 billion dinars the year before. This shows about a 10-percent increase. This is the total value of goods and services which we estimate were produced by the national economy in all its forms.

This led, however, to another phenomenon which put great pressure on imports. We rely heavily on imported goods compared to last year, be they ready made goods, parts, machinery, or employment equipment [as heard]. The pressure on imports undoubtedly exhausts the foreign currency revenues that we obtain through exports. This might cause a deficit in what is called the balance of payments. You know the balance of payments: the money we owe the world for its exports to us in exchange for the money that the world owes us for our exports to it. Hasty, disorganized economic activity leads to a balance of payments deficit, a matter which the Central Bank noticed at the end of 1991.

This report details the foreign currency sources available to us last year. Foreign currency is obtained through exporting oil and its by-products, through a group of nonoil exports, through the revenues of the Jamahiriyah's external investments, and through the shares we get from external loans and their interest. All of these points are in the report. We should view them and discuss them. Unfortunately, the Central Bank noticed in assessing last year's economic situation that we still rely on oil and its by-products for our foreign currency. We have always aspired to diversify local production, which is based on local resources and raw materials, so that we do not spend foreign currency on our various production activities. Reliance on this oil and on the revenues from it is critical and can prove difficult because oil is an exhaustible resource that will dry up one day. Therefore, economy and activities must be self-reliant and must rely on the local raw materials which they can manufacture and the excess production of which they can export to obtain goods abroad.

We also noticed export partnership activity last year, primarily with friendly and brotherly countries, covering many balanced transactions between us and the Arab

countries. These exports were also extended to many agricultural goods and some raw materials such as (?skins) and wool, as well as fish, which provided many other goods in exchange for these exports. This is a good orientation whereby Libyan producers started seeking out and competing with foreign markets to market Libyan production abroad. [passage omitted]

The Jamahiriyah's foreign currency revenues are generally spent in (?several) ways. This spending is regulated because it fulfills obligations (?which we want). The more obligations, the more we require, and the more these funds fall short of fulfilling those obligations. We cover imports through what is known to the People's Congresses as the import budget. We decide what goods to import each year. We still can provide our own food and several basic goods. We do import provisions, oils, tea, coffee, rice, medicine, and other basic goods such as spare parts, ready made equipment, and household goods. [passage omitted]

The Central Bank noted industry's increased dependency on imported operating materials last year—raw materials to run factories. The Central Bank warned against this phenomenon and confirmed that production projects which depend on domestic inputs should be chosen to reduce the cost of importing those raw materials from abroad and not to depend always on imports. [passage omitted]

We spend our foreign revenue on important strategic projects like the Great Man-Made River. These projects are among the priorities on which we spend the foreign revenue we obtain. A number of other payments are detailed: We have commitments to organizations, contributions, we have students abroad, we have missions, we have a foreign work force working here which needs to exchange part of its salaries for foreign currency for its countries in accordance with contracts, and we have travel allowances which the citizens know about. [passage omitted]

This does not include the state-paid medical treatment of Libyans who have difficult health problems. This normally includes...

[Al-Qadhdhafi, interrupting] [Words indistinct]

[Al-Zulaytini] These direct payments are clarified by number and purpose.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] How much do they cost?

[Al-Zulaytini] 600,000,000 dinars.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] What does the bank say about this? The 600,000,000 that goes abroad amounts to the budgets of two or three Third World countries. What does the bank say about this? What does it recommend?

[Al-Zulaytini] The bank recommends that alternative resources be found to reduce these expenditures. For example, the health secretariat has a program for developing several health facilities so that citizens can get the treatment they need. The bank recommends that spending for students abroad, state-paid studies abroad, and official missions be reduced to the minimum. I think that the general people's committee has already adopted several measures. The vocational training secretariat, which is in charge of employment, is doing away with foreign manpower which we do not need and that which is here without contracts. We see that spending in this field is decreasing.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] The paper I have here says that there are 50,000 foreign workers in the public sector. This is illogical. Had this been in the private sector [words indistinct] this would have been acceptable, but these 50,000 are in the public sector, employed by the state. Why can't they be replaced with 50,000 Libyans?

[Al-Zulaytini] These warnings were given to the General People's Committee and the vocational training committee. Their answer on the measures taken is that the number is decreasing compared to previous years. They believe that this number will drop to zero in one or two years. However, the truth is that the amount we mentioned—that is, 50,000,000-60,000,000 dinars—was for the past three or four years. Therefore, it seems...

[Al-Qadhdhafi, interrupting] There are 22,000 foreigners in the health sector. Normally there would be 22,000 Libyans in their place, serving as nurses and doing other jobs. It may be difficult to produce doctors quickly. The fact that people know there are 22,000 foreigners working in the health sector, taking all the money we have been talking about, is important. I wonder how a small country like this can spend 2 billion a year. [passage omitted]

How much is the education budget? Here it is, in front of me: 400,000,000 dinars, plus 40,000,000, plus 100,000,000 for higher education... 200 and 400... that is close to 600,000,000. This is unreasonable. It is almost half of the income. Almost half of the Libyan budget is spent on education, 600,000,000 a year to run general and higher education. Health covers almost 600,000,000. This makes 600 on education and 600 on health. This is more than half the budget on health and education. People must understand. How will they deal with this? Let the Basic People's Congresses debate this. If they reduce them, so be it. Education could be liberalized. Not all the burden falls on the budget. The money could be spent on other things. Health could be liberalized so that one pays. Those who cannot afford it go to a general hospital; those who cannot afford it go to a general school. Those who can, we will talk about it. Fine.

There is another sector: justice and police. More than 250,000,000 is spent on the justice sector, general prosecution, police, etc. These three sectors take the most, particularly education and health. They take the biggest budgets, and this must be discussed at the People's Congresses session.

[Al-Zulaytini] We always remind the Basic People's Congresses that we should not spend more foreign currency than we have. We hope to save some of this foreign currency to increase reserves. While I know that various sectors have forwarded various demands and that some may be justified, we hope to continue abiding by the principle that we have upheld for many years: Foreign currency spending should be within the limits of what is available.

The Central Bank orders that no new agreements be concluded and that imports be limited to necessary goods, medicine, spare parts, and raw material essential for productive industries. This is a call for saving foreign currency for other purposes.

The bank also calls for organizing and marketing potential and for searching for foreign markets to export local products. It is essential that no budget with a deficit be adopted, that spending be controlled, and that there be no borrowing from the banking sector because we noted an unusually high incidence of borrowing from the banking sector to finance the general budget over the past few years. [passage omitted]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Let's finish this discussion. I would like to emphasize that people's power should shine this time: this session is a session of defiance, even if the matter warrants meeting on each sector. For instance, students should organize People's Congresses for all students, agree on an agenda not as students but as citizens, and discuss and debate among themselves. Workers should meet in People's Congresses and discuss an agenda not as workers but as citizens. [passage omitted]

I have a draft railway project in mind which I told brothers to submit to People's Congresses to let the Libyan people judge for themselves whether it could be implemented. This project would cost millions if we submit the contract to foreign companies. We would like to deprive foreign companies, especially Western firms, however. Just as they punish us, we will punish them. We will definitely decide, just as Egypt did when it built the High Dam. [passage omitted]

We should show defiance and punish those who punish us; if you are punished, you should return the same punishment. Economic punishment should prompt a similar economic punishment, a human punishment should prompt a human punishment. The Libyan people should see the railway as a line connecting Egypt, Tunisia, and Sudan—if the line can end in (Fazzan), Sudan. We would have drawn a line on behalf of the Sudanese, Egyptian, and Tunisian peoples, so to speak, because they all form one Arab people. Specialized People's Comittees will draw up maps and plans and form working groups of engineers and experts. If they can be found here, that is okay. If we are to recruit them from abroad, that would be okay. We can recruit an expert from India or China to supervise Libyans building this railway. This is an issue of defiance put forward to the Libyan people. The best response to the international plot directed against us and which targets the Arab nation requires that we ignore them and begin the construction by relying on ourselves; we should replace any damage they cause; we should deprive them of millions. [passage omitted]

I would like to draw your attention to the fact that there is huge and available wealth and that the political atmosphere is suitable. We dream about unity and about challenges, but when the time comes to seize the historic opportunity and work in earnest, we might not find the meanings of the slogans and aspirations practically implemented.

I would like to raise a point about Sudan. Sudan could be a grain depot. It is a country rich in water thanks to the Nile River and summer rains. It is a rich country. Its political situation is excellent now. It accepts unity at any time irrespective of our presence as individuals, etc. We dare not miss such an opportunity to confront the enemy in the interests of the nation and of future generations. If it were up to me, tomorrow I would announce immediate union with Sudan in every respect. There would be one country stretching from the Red Sea to the Atlantic [as heard]. It would be the biggest challenge to the ambitions of the neocolonialists, who are trying to dupe the Arabs so that they can dominate us, absorb our resources and wealth, and subjugate us to their regimes. This is true defiance. You should think about this. Do not do it because Mu'ammar said that tomorrow we should be shouting: Sudan! Sudan! No, the unity should be real and serious in every respect. Everyone should realize that it is necessary. [passage omitted]

It is absurd to think that some people own Mercedes while others have no car at all. How can we make them equal? This person has two children while this one has 20. This is abnormal. The latter needs help. [passage omitted]

As far as the property of the public sector, public companies, and public agricultural projects are concerned, the state should have enough for its needs and pass the rest to the masses. Even if there is a small production line in the steel factory which can be taken over by 10 people and which they can manage for their benefit, let them look for one and manage it. [passage omitted]

I think that the Jamahiriyah should be divided into communes or localities [mahalat]. I can say that I have found some 1,500 localities. I feel that municipalities and their branches should be abolished; Libya should only be divided into localities and communes, 1,500 communes. Every commune or locality should set up a People's Congress and People's Committee. However, the latter should be the only institution to represent all sectors and should be answerable to the People's Congress. Afterwards the 1,500 communes, administrations, or small administrative units should meet at the level of

the Jamahiriyah. There should also be special People's Committees to coordinate and supervise.

As far as your next meeting is concerned, you are free to change the People's Committees, the Secretariat of the General People's Congress, the General People's Committee, and the Secretariat of the People's Congress. Among the things on which we can challenge the world is the fact that we can change people anytime. We do not have a government which lasts for four or seven years before there can be an election. If we lose them, the same government will stay in power whether we like it or not. That government will stay there even if the people are divided 49 percent against and 50 or 51 percent for. With such a result they would say the government has been successful despite the fact that half of the people are against it. Only one vote would keep the government in power despite us. No! No! We have only People's Committees here. Those officials in charge of foreign, interior, health, agricultural, and educational affairs can be changed anytime. We can change them every week if we like. You should replace anyone you dislike; you ought to replace him if he is a babbler, a hypocrite, or unsuitable. Who can prevent you from changing the majority of officials in the General People's Committees? You can change anyone you do not like. [passage omitted]

The world is unhappy. They wonder why this country has been stable for so long and why there have been no demonstrations or strikes. We told them [words indistinct] you will all be like here. There will be no demonstrations, strikes, or the like when you become like us. Why should there be demonstrations? The power is with the people. We can remove anyone we do not like. [passage omitted]

What remains of the agenda before we come to the last page? We do not want anyone to say that there is unemployment in Libya. I heard people saying: By God, we have no work! Go and replace the 50,000 foreigners! [passage omitted]

We come now to the last remark: The confrontation between Libya and the traditional colonialist countries—that is, the countries which have traditionally been colonialist.

They should not say there is a problem of Lockerbie and a problem of Palestine. They have colonized us since the days of the Romans and annexed us to Europe unjustly and through aggression. They took our land and expelled us and called us Berbers. [passage omitted]

They are still chasing us unashamedly. They say: We are going to strike Libya; we are going to strike Egypt; we are going to strike Syria, etc. Has it not been sufficient for you to strike us for several centuries? Have these people no shame! The blood of the Libyans who they killed is not yet dry, and their children are still here. But America is still talking about the Libyans. I thought that after 1986 America would be ashamed to mention the name of Libya. They have killed innocent children. What is this? Are our children sheep and their children respectable? We have said that. I mean that they have traditionally been after us. If they want another round, it will be similar to the previous rounds. In the end we will always be victorious. This is because we own the land. The landowner will always be victorious.

I personally feel that this confrontation... [changes thought] At first I did not want to get too (?excited) over the issue because it is a sick issue. On the one hand, it is very small; on the other, it can be blown way out of proportion. I can get angry when necessary and be pessimistic when necessary. (?When) the truth is like that, (?I say so). I am still in control of my nerves. I do not want to do as the Islamists wish (?and order) that the caliphate be announced and a jihad be declared. Arab tribes, Arab parties, and Arab popular organizations told me: You must speak on the radio every day and incite people to revolution, to onslaught and physical elimination. You must set the Arab region on fire, and North Africa must be turned into embers. You must distribute weapons to every Tom, Dick, and Harry. This is a confrontation and a danger.

I am still in control of my nerves, and I do not want to comply with all these requests at the present time. If these things become a reality, I will comply and do what they tell me now. I do not see this today, however. I still see that the issue is first... [changes thought] I tell you that these things are related to politics. Just because you are deciding on a policy does not mean that you enter battle. These are sessions in which you discuss this issue from the political aspect, and politics does not need fighting spirit and anthems.

I have an observation to make to you, and perhaps all you members of the Basic People's Congresses did not pay attention to this, which is that in reality neither the U.S. leaders nor the British leaders talk at all about the Lockerbie problem because the U.S. president or his secretary of state or the British prime minister did not talk at all about this issue and did not get themselves involved in it, possibly because they believe that the issue may be small and may be falsified and may not be true. Apart from Britain's Foreign Office, they did not want to get involved in it, and this is a positive thing.

All those who spoke, all those you hear talking and saying that the United States has said this and said that—these are the official spokesmen, clerks, representatives, ambassadors, and representatives at the UN Security Council. But they, as leaders, in reality do not talk at all about this issue. There were insults being exchanged among Reagan and his secretary of state and me, and I was insulting them and I did not fear them when their fleets were close to our borders. I was insulting them and was saying this and that. You heard the statements that I made, and there is no need to repeat them again because he [President Reagan] deserved that insult and was at the same time attacking me personally and insulting me.

As for the officials who are now present in Britain and in the United States, I will tell you, there is mutual respect between us. They have never insulted al-Qadhdhafi or said anything bad about him or mentioned me at all or called me names as Reagan was doing and was speaking about me everyday.

In return, I in fact did not want to talk about them personally and I have never done so.

On the other hand, the Arab leaders who are friends of the United States always assure me that this U.S. Administration is the best we have ever seen and that it is possible to deal with it and to reach an understanding with it.

I say to them: May what you say be true. They say the U.S. president is a reasonable man and his secretary of state is a reasonable man. It is possible that Bush could be nominated and reelected and the situation might change and become calmer. This is election propaganda, and it is normal in the West. They always try to stir up public opinion and do such things and raise anything. They say: Even after Bush, if he wins the elections he will continue for another four years, after that he is not allowed to be a candidate, and then his secretary of state could be nominated and could be elected president. Therefore, these people are planning to be presidents for four years and another four years—the president, then his secretary of state and the others. You must take these circumstances into consideration, they say, and they are good people and we are going to deal with them for eight years.

We do not reject that. Not one of us says: We must be hostile to the United States; we must be hostile to the United States at any cost just because it is the United States. We are hostile to those who are hostile to us and we are peaceful toward anyone who is peaceful toward us.

The enemy might not be the United States. On the contrary, I expect that the colonialists might come from another direction. Now we say that the Western countries are preparing themselves to be neocolonialists because they have an economic crisis and they want raw materials and oil. But on the other hand we could say that perhaps they reached the stage that they cannot bring their armies to go and fight other countries. But the poor, who have no institutions to support them, could jump from any continent like the Mongols and the Tatars in the past. This could happen.

Therefore, I say that they hope to subjugate Libya. With mutual understanding we could be friends. This is by understanding, by good deeds, and by mutual interests. This is alright. But if they think that they can use force to vanquish us, that is impossible. The aircraft carriers cannot enter the Libyan desert. We will remain forever the masters of the desert, the mountains, and the valleys.

Even if the situation reached the stage of military confrontation, they could strike, strike, and strike again. Then they would fail. I am confident that the passage of time is not in their interest. We will be masters on our land. They cannot enter something like that. They know its beginning but cannot know its end. Libya is very difficult. Libya and Algeria are difficult to govern or on which to impose a government. They cannot succeed.

Have you seen the end of the government brought by the Russian Army, the great Soviet Army? This is its end. [passage omitted]

Arriving at an understanding with Libya is possible. It is possible to have links in the fields of oil, gas, water, industry, agriculture, tourism, and commerce—like any reciprocal measure between two countries which respect each other. But the way that the Western countries are pursuing has no future. There is no good fortune, and no benefit for them in it. We may get tired, and we may lose, but they also will never reach their goal, and despite the fatigue which could befall us and the sacrifices which we might make, we would remain the masters of our land. There is no doubt about that. This is our land, our houses, and our place under the sun. This is different from an army invading another country. We have tried it. The Chadians asked for our help, and we entered Chad. Although Chad is an extension of ourselves, it is not our land; it is an extension of ourselves. What comparison is there between Chad's strength and Libya's strength? We have seen the Soviet Army enter Afghanistan, and they are one land. There is no sea or ocean separating them, let alone the United States, which lies beyond the Atlantic Ocean.

In the end it is the owner of the land who remains on it and he is the one who attains victory while the other keeps on striking, striking, and then gets tired. He gets tired, and the pressures against him mount, and the invader is told: You are taking us behind our borders to another land to make sacrifices.

The United States is now very tired of its foreign policy, the Gulf War, I do not know what, intervention in Libya, intervention I do not know where, intervention in Panama, and intervention in Cuba. Due to all of its acts of intervention, the United States has finally exploded from within. The American people told Bush: Come here, we have millions of the unemployed people; we have AIDS patients; we have cancer patients; we have unemployment, inflation, a high cost of living, and suicides. Where is the United States going? Come back, we are situated between the Atlantic Ocean and the the Pacific Ocean, and let us live in security and peace, and the Soviet Union has been finished. We befriend whoever befriends us and antagonize whoever antagonises us—that's it. Nobody antagonizes the United States because it is very remote from the whole world. The United States is completely isolated. No one covets a piece of America or has a problem of modifying borders with the United States. There is nothing like this. The United States is isolated on all sides. It is isolated from the south by Panama, from the north by Canada and the North Pole, and if there is an east and a west, America is the east and the west, as the Koran says. There is the

Pacific Ocean in the west, and in the east there is the Atlantic Ocean. The United States is isolated, and there is no problem with it. It can live in happiness, concerned about nothing. We welcome its commercial and tourism links.

This is what I am telling you. What I want to make you understand in reality is that the issue is simple: It is an accusation against two people. It is called mere suspicion. Well, the Security Council has not decided that Libya should hand over its citizens because it cannot say this, because there is nothing on which the Security Council can base itself to force a sovereign state to hand over its citizens to be tried in another country. But what is the problem then? The problem is not that the accused Libyans are not accused of a Libyan case. Otherwise we would have asked why does the United States or Britain want to try them? What do they have to do with us? No. The truth is that the problem lies in that the accused Libyans are being accused of a case which belongs to them. They said that these are the people who could have killed our sons—450 died; perhaps they killed them. They are the ones who blew up our plane and they are the ones who over the town of Lockerbie—which was secure like the town of Banghazi or the town of Tripoli in 1986—while its inhabitants were asleep, a jumbo or a Jaguar plane crashed into them. I do not know what they call it; what kind was it?

This Pan Am plane crashed into them and demolished houses just as when the bombs fell on Tripoli and Banghazi after midnight. It was exactly like that. It was horrifying and a disaster for them. A plane full of passengers, civilians, military men, officials, important people, children, etc. It blew up and crashed. They actually consider it a disaster, as we here considered the attack against us to be a disaster, and we are innocent. They say this is a disaster and we are innocent. Who caused it? The one who caused it must be put on trial. We told them it is alright; we shall try them. They said no, you are free to try your citizens when they commit crimes against you but these have committed crimes against us, against the United States and against Britain. They have killed our sons and destroyed our towns. Therefore, we must try them because they committed the crime against us. We say that there is no country which hands over its citizens to be tried by another country. They said: No, this is a private case, it is a different case. The case is that they struck us and destroyed us. We told them that Libyan law does not permit the handing over of a Libyan even if he committed a crime like this. Even if he committed a crime like this Libyan law does not permit his trial outside Libya. This is an obstacle, and all countries recognize this.

The truth is that we are saying that we cannot let anybody else try our children, and they are saying: You must hand them over to us. This tug-of-war will not lead to any result. It could lead to a further development in relations and it could lead to more tension. They are in control of the Security Council. What does the Security Council consist of? The free and independent states abstained from voting but they [the United States, France, and Britain] managed to obtain nine other votes, including the votes of their own adversaries.

The Security Council is comprised of the United States, France, and Britain, and these are the adversaries. It also includes Hungary at the moment. Hungary is a poor country to which the United States has given some money and which the United States is pulling by a string attached to its nose. With the end of the Warsaw Pact Hungary does not have any more weight, taste, or scent. Whatever the United States says, it will say. Austria is a state affiliated to the West. Belgium, as you know, is like one of the United States' colonies after World War II. Japan is not even allowed to create its own army to defend itself, let alone say no to the United States at the Security Council.

In addition to that, there is the solidarity of the West. The West is bound by solidarity and we are the proof. Our slogan is: Support your brother whether he is the oppressor or the oppressed. We told them this is our slogan. They said we took it from you. Support your brother whether he is the oppressor or the oppressed. We in the West are bound by solidarity.

India said no. China said no. Morocco said no. Zimbabwe said no. Cape Verde said no. These are the five states which, out of the 15 Security Council states, said: No, we do not agree with this resolution. They managed to obtain the votes of the other nine or ten states and that was that. Legally, the resolution was adopted because it won the right number. They can adopt other resolutions in this way regardless of who is the oppressor.

Therefore, there is a problem. We must understand that when it is the time of challenge, we are ready, and when it is the time of death it is up to us to make the decision to die. We can make that decision, and nobody (?can stop us). I have told you that when the time comes for a confrontation we remain the masters in our country.

However, there is a political or legal problem which must be discussed in depth and wisely. It is really impossible for us to hand over our children to the United States. The decision is not up to me, but as a Libyan citizen after all and as the leader of the revolution I am not saying that we should hand them over to the United States. Just as they do not trust the Libyan judiciary—we said to them we will try them here in our country, and they said no, adding: They have committed a crime against us; how can you try them when they are your own children? The crime they committed was not against you, therefore we cannot trust you to try them fairly. They have committed a crime against us.

It is possible that they committed the crime—and they [the United States and Britain] are still saying that they are only suspects. But we are certain they are innocent.

Just as they are saying they cannot be sure of the Libyan judiciary, so we too are saying: We cannot be sure of the U.S. or British judiciary, especially after the Los Angeles

events. The entire world is now convinced that the Libyans cannot be tried in the United States—whether they go voluntarily to the United States or whether their state hands them over. The entire world is now convinced that the U.S. judiciary can no longer be trusted. It is significant that the U.S. president himself said that he was stunned by the verdict delivered by the jury which acquitted the white policemen who had beaten up a black motorist. This testimony is enough for us.

This is a trusted and wise man [President Bush] and it is better to deal with him, according to what our Arab friends, who are his friends, have told us. His testimony is enough for us. He said: I was stunned by this verdict. In other words, this is it. If the U.S. President himself is stunned by the jury system in the United States, what about us? Even without this incident we did not trust the foreign judiciary.

It seems that the entire world is saying that the trial in Libya of people implicated in a case involving a crime committed against other states like these [United States and Britain] might not be acceptable.

To hand them over to adversarial countries is not acceptable. There is nothing to support them in this demand. Therefore, a solution must be found. We say that if we are to hand them over, we will not hand them over to the largest country. If we are to put them on trial, we should put them on trial in the smallest country. We should choose the smallest country in the world and say this is our will and put them on trial there.

We do not accept whatsoever putting them on trial in the largest country because this would enable people to say that we were afraid and surrendered. We should choose the smallest country if we are looking for a compromise. We should choose the smallest country and put them on trial there. If we are sure of their innocence then there is no problem.

The Libyan state should not get involved in this case. Alright, these people are suspects. They should be investigated. But the Libyan state should not issue a resolution and say: In accordance with the U.S. and British demand they should be sent to the United States and Britain. This is unreasonable. Neither Libyan sovereignty nor the law allow this.

As reasonable Libyan people whom the whole world is watching now... [changes thought] All the world is now watching Libya and wondering what will happen. What will Libya do and what will the other countries do? The whole world is disturbed. The Libyan people must sit down calmly and discuss the matter. We do not want anyone to come and say: Mu'ammar, take care; do not hand them over; take care. No, no, no. It is not up to me. You can decide anything. Decide; then neither Mu'ammar, 'Abd-al-Salam, nor al-Khuwaylidi are responsible. We have no authority. You are the ones with the authority. When you fight we will fight alongside you. What we are doing now is part of our patriotic and revolutionary duty.

You are the ones who can decide. Sit down and decide. No one should be absent from the congresses, and no decision about such an issue should be taken without him participating in it. This is an issue which could be grave, and it could also be easy and be solved.

I think that to reach an understanding with Libya in a good way would be very much better for them than confronting it in an arbitrary and arrogant way. They will not benefit from the latter course. The whole international order could collapse at the doors of Libya. Libya is a small country but it could decide the fate of the world if it stood firmly and if it became apparent that it is not as they expected.

The situation is different from that of Iraq. Iraq's position is very weak. Its geography and strategy are weak and all the countries around it are hostile to it. Iraq's problem is an Arab-Arab one. Ten Arab countries are fighting Iraq. The Libyan situation is different.

As for Libya, it did not occupy an Arab country. All the Arabs are with Libya. All the Muslims are with Libya. All the peoples of the world are with Libya. [passage omitted]

They claim Libya has terrorist camps. It is in our interest that any committee or any group of people should come to Libya to see for themselves whether or not there are terrorist camps. It is not becoming for them to say that we have terrorist camps and to smear our reputation before the world. Terrorist camps against whom? And for whose benefit? We challenge them to send anybody to visit Libya and see for themselves.

The story about the atom: We wish we had the capability to manufacture the atomic bomb. We would not have hesitated to work day and night to manufacture the atomic bomb, because its manufacture is not prohibited. However, the atomic bomb costs billions that we cannot afford—you have seen the budget before you. It also requires thousands of experts to make a bomb.

Then, even if we did make the bomb, we do not have a target on which to drop it. Even if we were to manufacture it, we do not have the means to deliver it. If we were to use it against Palestine, we would simultaneously be attacking Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, and Jordan, which means that Arabs would be killed. Furthermore, who could think of using the atomic bomb against Palestine? Other weapons, maybe, but weapons of mass destruction cannot be used in this region. Is it conceivable that we wish to strike Europe with the atomic bomb? The whole world is still suffering from Hiroshima and Nagasaki. They dare say that we think of such strikes. We are the ones who demanded the destruction of all weapons and who presented a proposal to this effect to the United Nations.

In addition to this, Libya is a signatory to the Nonproliferation Treaty on nuclear weapons, and the IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] always tours the signatory countries and inspects their nuclear activities

to see whether they are peaceful or not. Our reactors are known—Tajura' and other reactors are known to be scientific and peaceful. The IAEA always comes every now and then to inspect them. This matter is closed.

As for the poison gases, we have medicines and not poison gases. We consider poison gases to be terrifying and destructive and believe that they should be removed from everywhere. Therefore, Libya believes that the whole region, including the Israelis, should be inspected and every chemical weapon be destroyed.

We asked for an inspection of the whole region in order to destroy any chemical weapons in it. We know that the Israelis have dangerous chemical weapons and nuclear weapons and bacteriological weapons. We think that the inspection should start from Libya and extend to Israel.

This is as far as these issues are concerned. They are now clear. If after that these people continue chasing us and look for us, saying: It is a goat even if it flies, then we will say as we said before: When we know that there is no way to reach an understanding and that there is no logic, then the barricades will decide the issue between us and them. We will resort to machine guns and barricades, and whatever will be will be. We said that in the end we will emerge victorious. We will remain the masters of the desert, the mountains, and the valleys.

These are the issues we place before the People's Congresses, and we want all the Libyan people—anyone who is 18 years old or older—to assert themselves in these grave issues of destiny.

From this time, from now on, the people's authority should be asserted before the world. They are insulting us, they are saying: If you have no authority then find somebody or a group to govern. A group to govern! This has nothing to do with the Libyan people.

May the struggle continue.

Al-Bishari Seeks 'Direct Dialogue' With West

PM0605133592 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI in Arabic 2 May 92 pp 1, 6

[Unattributed report: "Libyan Foreign Minister Tells SAWT AL-KUWAYT: Arabs Support Us; Direct Dialogue Is the Way Out"]

[Text] Cairo, SAWT AL-KUWAYT—Libyan Foreign Minister Ibrahim al-Bishari yesterday described the Arab situation as steadfast in the face of the fierce Western crisis and supportive of the Libyan Jamahiriyah against Western intransigence.

Al-Bishari, who attended the Arab League ministerial meetings which concluded yesterday, said in exclusive statements to SAWT AL-KUWAYT yesterday that the seven-member committee will convene at the end of the week to arrive at a solution and a new and specific program to organize the holding of numerous contacts with the the three major states concerned with the problems, namely the United States, Britain, and France.

Al-Bishari affirmed that his country was studying new proposals presented by the seven-member committee. Al-Bishari described the extensive activities carried out by the committee as a serious attempt to arrive at a radical solution. He urged the three [Western] states to enter into a direct dialogue with Libya because this is the best solution to issues in question. He cited the efforts made by the Arab and friendly Western states not a party to the problem and said that we might succeed through the attempts of some states to enter into a direct dialogue with the three states. He described UN Secretary General Dr. Butrus Ghali's efforts as seeking to contain the crisis, which has been exaggerated despite Libya's response to international resolutions. He pointed to the possibility of arriving at a solution through the secretary general's efforts to secure a direct dialogue among the parties to the dispute. Al-Bishari revealed details of what happened at the meetings of the Arab League Council, the proceedings of which have been concluded. He said: "We were anxious to achieve Arab consensus on the crisis with the West. The Arab states urged through the League secretary general the need to conduct a dialogue to bring an end to this conflict."

Al-Bishari described the resolutions adopted against Libya as unjust and stated that they were adopted under Article VII of the UN Charter, thus making their implementation mandatory. Thus the extent of the injustice is clear. This is because the Libyan crisis does not deserve all these hard-line attitudes, and the United Nations should be solving chronic problems like the Palestinian and Lebanese crises.

Al-Bishari demanded that the Arab position be developed and pushed toward implementing joint Arab action agreements. He denied the existence of disagreements among Libyan Government members or within the Libyan political leadership over the handling of the case.

He described the political situation in his country as characterized by respect for human rights, the protection of citizens' freedom, and the consolidation of democracy. He pointed out that President [title as published] al-Qadhdhafi enjoys popular support, which in itself is a vote of support for his decisions.

He described the decision to discuss the possibility of trying the suspects in a neutral country as evidence of Libya's confidence that its position is safe, and he said that this represents a concession on Libya's part to arrive at a peaceful solution to the crisis in order to prove to the world our response to the resolutions of international legitimacy. He added that the parties to the conflict must respond to these numerous solutions.

Secretary Durdah Calls For Lockerbie Solution

PM0605105192 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 1 May 92 pp 1, 4

[Muhammad 'Allam and Nur-al-Din al-Furaydi report: "Durdah Tells AL-HAYAH: Aim Is To Topple Regime"]

[Excerpts] Cairo, Brussels—President Husni Mubarak has announced that Egypt "has done everything to avert military action against Libya." "But there are limits which cannot be exceeded lest matters lead to adverse results and harm Egypt." In a speech delivered yesterday on the occasion of Labor Day he warned that the Libyan-Western crisis "presages sinister consequences." [passage omitted]

Libyan Prime Minister [title as published] Abu-Zayd 'Umar Durdah has told AL-HAYAH that the "aim of the crisis is to topple our regime in preparation for controlling North Africa." He reiterated that Tripoli "agrees to any neutral quarter's settling the crisis in accordance with the UN Charter, international law, and Libyan sovereignty." [passage omitted]

In Brussels Libyan Prime Minister Abu-Zayd 'Umar Durdah renewed Tripoli's offer to try the two suspects in the Lockerbie bombing case "in Libya or any neutral country" in order to resolve the Libyan-Western crisis "in accordance with the principles of legitimacy and international sovereignty." In his statement to AL-HAYAH he said that the political part of the crisis "aims at toppling the regime" in his country. He said that no opposition exists "inside or outside Libya." [passage omitted]

AL-HAYAH asked the Libyan prime minister whether he believed there was a way out of the Lockerbie crisis. He replied: "We did not start the crisis. It was imposed on us. Despite that, we have tried to resolve it by all legal and diplomatic means and in a way that guarantees the implementation of the UN Charter, international law, and respect for states' sovereignty."

He went on to say that the Libyan judiciary had investigated the suspects "in accordance with the Libyan criminal laws and procedures. It also made contacts with the investigating authorities in Scotland, the United States, and France to obtain the evidence files, but they refused to submit the evidence that they had. Then we expressed our complete willingness to receive investigators, lawyers, and human rights associations from the three countries (United States, Britain, and France). Despite the grounds supporting Libyan judicial jurisdiction, we saw that the international dimensions of the events that had been stirred up might make an international investigation a suitable means for starting to resolve the dispute, so we offered neutral investigation, then the International Court of Justice. The other parties' reply was just rejection (...) [ellipses as published]. If these parties are serious about finding a peaceful solution, we agree to any neutral quarter's settling the crisis in accordance with the requirements of the UN Charter, international law, and sovereignty."

Asked about his assertion at the [Brussels] seminar that the aim of the crisis is to shake Libya's stability, he said: "Politically, we expressed the complete willingness to negotiate and conduct a dialogue with Britain, the United States, and France, but they refused. We agreed to form a neutral committee, despite the fact that our two citizens have nothing to do with the charges brought against them (in the Lockerbie and UTA cases). And it became clear that the aim was not to search for the truth. It is a means to achieve political aims and topple our regime in preparation for controlling North Africa and its oil and isolating the Arabs from Europe and Europe from its southern flank (...) Anyone who tours Libya will realize that the crisis has strengthened the Libyans' unity and their adherence to their values."

On the possibility of new sanctions being imposed against Libya which might include an embargo on the sale of Libyan oil, he said: "We prefer to deal in accordance with international principles, and we hope that others will act sensibly after the publication of the analyses and press reports"—a reference to the recent report published by the U.S. magazine TIME which accused Syria and Iran of the Lockerbie bombing.

He said that oil "is not just a commodity. It concerns geography and common interests, and it is in no one's interests to embark on such a step" (the embargo). He added that Libya "has common interests with all Western establishments, and an embargo would harm them all."

Asked whether there was an opening up to the Libyan opposition abroad, which is demanding changes in the regime, he emphasized that "no opposition exists in Libya or abroad." He said that party pluralism "is a form which the world has started to abandon. It has started to move toward us." [passage omitted]

Kuwait

Defense Minister on Iraq Border, Egypt Ties

NC0505203592 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Cairo, 4 May (MENA)—Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh 'Ali Sabah al-Salim emphasized that the UN committee decision demarcating the border between Kuwait and Iraq was based on maps prepared by the Iraqi Defense Ministry and left behind by the Iraqi Army after its withdrawal from Kuwait.

Speaking at a news conference today at the Kuwaiti Information Center in Cairo, the Kuwaiti defense minister said that the UN committee in which Kuwait and Iraq participated and which was chaired by an Indonesian representative and headquartered in the United Nations has not received a single document from Iraq but rather based its decision on the documents and maps presented by Kuwait and which were of Iraqi origin.

He added that the committee's decision was based on technical and geographical considerations and not political ones and that it has restored to Kuwait rights usurped by Iraq in 1932 and 1973.

He said: We only want what is ours. We do not want to commit any aggression and we have not and will not transgress against anyone's rights. On its own initiative and in agreement with the UN committee, Kuwait has ceded some of its territories to Iraq for security, political, and economic reasons and as a sign of goodwill toward Iraq because it is a neighboring and fraternal country.

He added: Kuwait had already ceded some of its coastal rights, leaving for Iraq a huge commercial port that was on Kuwaiti territory. Kuwait did so, even though this area belonged to Kuwait, because it saw the need to deal with the international community and Iraq and did not want to hurt Iraq but rather to live in peace. Kuwait also for humanitarian reasons ceded a part of its land on which Iraq had built a hospital. These were marked out in the new status so that this area will be within Iraqi territory.

He mentioned that Kuwait will pay compensation to Iraqi farmers for the farms they had build on Kuwaiti territory near the border which Iraq usurped in 1973. He said: This is proof of our good intentions and that we do not want to hurt anyone.

He said that Iraq had annexed this land for military purposes but then sent Iraqi farmers to plant seasonal crops to prove their ownership. He said compensation will be paid even though the value of the crops there is symbolic.

The Kuwaiti defense minister said that what has been retrieved measures between 1,200 and 1,500 square meters to the north of the Kuwaiti border. He stressed that this area belongs to Kuwait but was usurped by Iraq in 1932 and 1973.

Shaykh 'Ali Sabah al-Salim attacked the pro-Iraqi press, saying that it wants to deceive the world and prove to it that Kuwait has sliced off part of Iraq, but the fact is that the UN committee has restored rights to the land's owners.

The Kuwaiti defense minister said that his country has complied with the UN committee's decisions, which always supported Kuwaiti rights while there were constant objections from Iraq, which usurped Kuwaiti territory in 1982 [date as received] and 1973.

He emphasized that Iraq wants to take all of Kuwait and to control the sources of oil in the Arabian Peninsula. With its immense economic resources Iraq could have been the richest Arab country, but it used its financial and economic resources and its infrastructure to build a military arsenal to threaten neighboring fraternal Arab countries. He added: The Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] countries have given and will give a lot to our Arab and Muslim brothers while Iraq has given nothing but ruin and destruction.

Kuwaiti Defense Minister 'Ali Sabah al-Salim then noted that Iraq has not (?respected) any agreement which it signed with any Arab country and that it recently attacked Jordan's border despite that country's support for Iraq during the occupation of Kuwait. It had in the past violated all border agreements signed with Kuwait and sliced off many areas of Kuwait because it wanted its borders to reach Bahrain.

He added that his country is now rebuilding and rearming its army within a plan that relies on the brothers which are participants in the Damascus Declaration and on the friends who supported Kuwait during the occupation and who restored it to its people. He said that building the Army is one of the priorities in Kuwait's plan for self-defense because it is not going to rely solely on the security agreements that it has signed with the United States and Britain.

He explained that the reason for not implementing the Damascus Declaration yet is the existence of various opinions on the methods and principles of implementation. He praised Egypt's efforts for the Kuwaiti people, which stem from its realization of the importance of achieving peace in the region and its knowledge of the negative consequences of war on the Arab region due to the several wars that it has fought in defense of the Arab region since the tripartite aggression of 1956.

In reply to a question on whether there will be an expansion in military cooperation with Egypt in the near future, the Kuwaiti defense minister said that one cannot talk about an expansion or reduction in the two countries' military relations because what belongs to Egypt belongs to Kuwait and vice versa. He added that strengthening military relations between Egypt and Kuwait is not done through words but rather by benefiting from the two countries' expertise and resources.

He emphasized that Kuwait will never forget Egypt's help since 1940 when it sent teachers and schoolbooks to Kuwait at a time when the latter had no influence on the world economy and was just a small state. He said that Kuwait's relations with Egypt are old and deep-rooted, that cooperation between the two countries is constant and developing, and that he will work to bolster and increase cooperation in the military sphere and study Egypt's military resources from which Kuwait can benefit.

He stated that Kuwait has not signed a security agreement with Egypt similar to the ones signed with the United States and Britain because both Egypt and Kuwait are members of the Arab League. There is thus no need for such agreements because the Arab League charter is one of cooperation, and there is also a joint Arab defense agreement.

The Kuwaiti defense minister denied that the Damascus Declaration has not been implemented yet due to Iranian influence or pressure. He said that all there is to this matter is that the participant countries are still looking for the best formula for implementing the declaration. He added that he does not believe that Iran will do anything to impede its implementation, and that it is inconceivable that a security agreement will be signed by Kuwait and Iran. He did note that there will be tacit agreements with Iran in its capacity as a Gulf state, and this will be within the framework of maintaining the Gulf's security and stability.

He explained here that the tacit agreement between Iran and the GCC is a mere agreement of understanding and cooperation which takes into consideration the two sides' interests and focuses on economic aspects, such as the agreement Qatar signed with Iran to import water. He added that such cooperation contributes to achieving security and peace for the peoples of the region and to the principle of "Gulf security," taking into consideration all the parties' common interests and ensuring stability and peace for them.

In reply to a question on why the Iraqi opposition abroad is objecting to the UN committee's decision on redrawing the borders between Kuwait and Iraq, the Kuwaiti defense minister said: The position of both Iraqi officials and the opposition toward Kuwait is the same and is based on the notion that Kuwait is part of Iraq. He added that the Iraqi opposition did not oppose Iraqi President Saddam Husayn because of his occupation of Kuwait but rather because of what he is doing to the Iraqi people.

He called on all parties to read the history of Kuwait and Iraq in books published outside Iraq because all the books published inside Iraq are based on the notion that Kuwait is part of Iraq. He added: All Iraqis, whether those in power or the opposition, still believe that Kuwait is part of Iraq, and the Iraqi opposition is taking this stand so as not to lose the support of the Iraqi public.

Shaykh 'Ali Sabah al-Salim then spoke about the issue of Kuwaiti prisoners in Iraq. He said: There are prisoners and detainees in Iraq, which has presented a list containing the numbers and names of these prisoners and detainees [words indistinct] died as a result of the barbaric treatment in Iraqi prisons.

He said that solving the prisoners issue is not in Kuwait's hands alone and added that his country has resorted to the United Nations, the Security Council, the Arab League, brothers and friends, Iran, and all countries with influence over Iraq but has found the doors closed because Iraq is refusing to release them and is using them as a bargaining chip to pressure Kuwait and the international community. He added that Kuwait is currently undertaking constant but quiet political action to resolve the issue of these prisoners.

He stressed that Kuwait will not abandon any person who stood with it during its tribulations. He said that his country has compensated the families of the prisoners without even looking at their nationality. He added that non-Kuwaitis who were seized inside Kuwait have been compensated and this was a clear decision by the prisoners' compensation committee, which considered everyone captured in Kuwait to be a Kuwaiti.

In reply to a question on mine clearing in Kuwait, he said that this operation is continuing. He added that hundreds of children have been killed by the huge quantities of mines, explosive material, and booby traps left behind by the Iraqis when they withdrew from Kuwait. He noted that more than 600,000 mines have been removed so far and that the weight of material already detonated has reached about 22,000 tons.

He emphasized that Egyptian bomb experts and mine defusers have played a large role in removing these mines and that a number of them have been martyred while doing their job. He added that Kuwait is applying the Kuwaiti compensation law to military martyrs from fraternal countries, especially Egypt, who fought with the Kuwaiti Army and were martyred during the fighting. He added that Egyptian martyrs will benefit from this law.

Asked about his country's concept of its security, he said that his country's concept is the same as that of Egypt and is aimed primarily at protecting security in the Gulf. He added that Kuwait is working to keep the Gulf a region of peace and that it does not want it to become a lake for ships, aircraft carriers, and destroyers.

He added that Kuwait does not object to mutually beneficial cooperation between the Gulf states and Iran, nor does it object to future cooperation with Iraq if the latter pursues policies aimed at achieving the security and interests (?of the region).

He expressed the hope that Iraq will learn the lesson that it received when it attempted to expand at the expense of others, because this expansion was unjustified. He said: Iraq might have realized that the Arab, Islamic, and international communities reject military expansion.

In reply to a question about the extent of military cooperation between Egypt and Kuwait, he emphasized that this cooperation will include all fields and that Kuwait needs Egyptian expertise to train the Kuwaiti military.

He added that he cannot specify Kuwaiti Army needs for military equipment because his country is working to retrieve the weapons that the Iraqi forces captured during their invasion of Kuwait.

He said that he will continue his talks with Egypt's military officials to identify Kuwait's needs for Egyptian expertise and resources. He stressed that Egypt carries major political weight in the region which influences the international community as well as the Arab region, and this will contribute to a large extent to protecting the Gulf region's security.

Qatar

Foreign Minister Meets With Iranian Official

LD0405191692 Tehran IRNA in English 1634 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Doha, May 4, IRNA—First Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohamad Besharati outlined Iran's proposals for the expansion of Tehran-Doha ties to Qatari Foreign Minister Mubarak Bin-'Ali al-Khatir here today.

Al-Khatir in the meeting referred to the important and strategic role of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the region, and said the amir and heir apparent of Qatar are keen on the expansion and deepening of ties with Iran.

Iran's First Vice-President Hasan Habibi is due in Qatar tomorrow and will be returning last year's visit to Iran of the Qatari heir apparent Shaykh Hamad Bin-Khalifah al Thani.

Habibi's visit is expected to have important impacts on the expansion of the two countries' relations.

Heir Apparent Receives Iran's Habibi

LD0505213192 Tehran IRNA in English 1605 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Doha, May 5, IRNA—Iranian first vice president, Hasan Habibi met with Qatar's heir apparent, Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Hamad al Thani today and conveyed to him a message from Iranian president, Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Habibi told his host that sound cooperation between the two countries could set a good example for other regional states.

He said that the benefit of oil producing countries lies in defending the real price of the barrel.

Habibi also underlined non-interference in Afghan internal affairs and called on Islamic states to participate in the reconstruction of Afghanistan.

"We believe that Afghanistan's territorial integrity should be respected and an independent Islamic government should be at the helm of affairs of that country," he added.

The Iranian official also expressed his pleasure over the return of the Central Asian Muslim countries to the Islamic fold, and expressed hope over the establishment of grand Islamic common market.

Al Thani for his part, appreciated Iran's stands towards regional and Muslim issues and urged expansion of bilateral and regional cooperation.

He considered Habibi's visit as an indication of Iran's interest in upgrading cooperation with regional states.

"We welcome broadening of ties and cooperation between Iran and the regional states," added the Qatari heir apparent.

Habibi heading a high-ranking delegation arrived in Doha today on a three-day official visit to hold talks with Qatari officials on the expansion of multilateral ties.

The Iranian vice president is returning the visit to Tehran last year of the Qatari heir apparent.

Saudi Arabia

Eastern Province Governor Replaced

LD0605195992 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] A high decree has been issued with regard to discharging from his post His Royal Highness Prince Fahd Bin-Salman Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, deputy governor of the Eastern Province, on the basis of a request from his highness.

His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud Bin-Nayif Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz has been appointed deputy governor of the Eastern Province.

Foreign Minister Says U.S. Counterfeiting Bills

JN0605175792 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1705 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] The United Nations, 6 May (INA)—Iraq today officially accused the United States of engaging in the counterfeiting of Iraqi currency as part of a plan to sabotage the Iraqi economy in cooperation with Saudi Arabia and Iran.

In a letter sent to UN Secretary General Dr. Butrus Ghali, Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn said that the CIA smuggled large quantities of counterfeit currency into Iraq via neighboring countries, namely Saudi Arabia, Iran, Turkey, and Jordan. He added that the U.S. objective behind this is to sabotage the Iraqi economy and damage the purchasing power of the money in the hands of citizens, who are already suffering from the unfair economic blockade.

The foreign minister attached to his letter samples showing the cheap methods being employed by the United States against Iraq, noting that helicopters dropped large numbers of counterfeit Iraqi dinar bills along border areas.

The minister went on to say that U.S. helicopters also dropped counterfeit currency in the marshland areas, Mandali, and the border area of al-Tib, in Maysan Governorate, during the period 19 to 27 January 1992, not to mention the use of a balloon to drop counterfeit currency on the tourist area of al-Mada'in.

Ahmad Husayn said that this conduct contravenes the insincere U.S. talk of efforts to establish a new world order based on justice and democracy, especially as the United States has made a hobby out of interfering in the domestic affairs of other countries, and also because it is violating an international agreement on counterfeit currency concluded in Geneva in 1929.

Regime Reportedly Masses 16 Divisions in North

NC0605155492 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1300 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] In a desperate attempt to intimidate the people in the north of the homeland, tyrant Saddam recently amassed his collapsing remnants near the governorates of al-Mawsil and Irbil. He has massed 16 divisions.

Information leaked from these sectors indicates that Saddam's cowardly regime is preparing to launch a new offensive against the governorates of Irbil and Dahuk this summer.

Report Says State Forms 21 Regiments

NC0605183692 (Clandestine) Voice of the Iraqi People in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Despised tyrant Saddam Husayn has sent a number of his intelligence men who are well-versed in crime and some leaders of his Saddamite guard to the north of the homeland.

An Iraqi source who is well connected to the leaders of the Republican Guard has said that 21 regiments have been formed, each led by an officer with the rank of major, assisted by a shaykh of the pro-tyrant Kurdish tribes, despite the fact that they are few and small in size.

Opposition Terms al-Mawsil Situation 'Turbulent'

NC0105181592 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1318 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] Conditions in al-Mawsil Governorate are growing more turbulent as a result of the inhuman practices of the collapsed Saddamist regime henchmen against al-Mawsil citizens.

A few days ago al-Furayjan District, in al-Mawsil Governorate, was the scene of an armed clash between the Yazidiyah and regime personnel which resulted in casualties on both sides.

It is noteworthy that Saddam's men are harassing this clan's prominent figures and tribal heads as part of the bullying regime's hostile policy toward the Iraqi people.

Also a few days ago, a gang of Saddam's security personnel attacked young men in the al-Mansur area [words indistinct]. Afterwards a group of armed residents in the area clashed with security personnel using light weapons and killed or wounded a number of these personnel. The [words indistinct] lasted for more than 15 minutes.

The situation is still unstable and heralds popular outrage against the malicious regime's mercenaries.

Iraqi TV Coverage of U.S. Riots Criticized

JN0405130092 Baghdad BABIL in Arabic 2 May 92 p 8

[Text] The state of Los Angeles [as published] has witnessed widespread acts of violence over the past few days—the greatest condemnation in the history of the administration of Bush, the criminal.

U.S., European, and Middle Eastern news agencies and television networks, not to mention the television stations on the remotest and unknown islands on the map, gave extensive coverage in their newscasts to this scandal in the "civilized" United States. That is, with the exception of our esteemed television, which turned its back on these events and gave them only one or two minutes' coverage despite the availabilty of tapes and information.

This merely indicates the political awareness and ability to follow up on events that a television administration such as the one representing great Iraq should have, because Iraq confronts and defies all the symbols of hegemony in the world.

Taking into consideration the rebellion of the entire United States, and all these political riots and protests as well as the subsequent setting fire to buildings and vehicles and the statements and comments on many

levels condemning U.S. racism, which prompted the National Guard to beat the people in the streets with clubs, how can we explain that our television reported all this in just one minute?

Who is responsible for this political and media negligence? Does this require instructions or guidance from the central authorities, or is it not a fact that some act only when ordered to do so? This was the news coverage of the first day of of the riots. For the sake of fairness, however, we should admit that on the second day television carried a five-minute report on the riots.

KDP Leader Says Saddam's Name 'Immortal'

JN0405192492 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 3 May 92 pp 1, 5

[Exclusive]

[Text] Ahmad Muhammad Sa'id al-Atrushi, secretary general of the Kurdish Democratic Party [KDP], has said that the autonomy enjoyed by our Kurdish people is the result of the leader's concern for spreading well-being and prosperity throughout Kurdistan. In a statement to AL-THAWRAH, al-Atrushi said: Iraq's Kurds have obtained their complete national rights and witnessed significant development in autonomy institutions while the Kurds in Syria, Turkey, and Iran are suffering from deprivation and are denied any rights.

Al-Atrushi affirmed that the enemies of our Kurdish people were angered by the achievements of our people, so they attempted to abort the autonomy experiment by any means. The enemies employed hired agents, traitors, and traders in the Kurds' blood in order to encroach on their lofty national unity.

Al-Atrushi said: Our Kurdish people and their demands receive great concern on the part of the leader after the backwardness and disregard from which this people have suffered for a long time. He noted that the president is the one who engineered and laid down the framework and course of work to end the tribulations of the Kurds, to grant them their cultural and social rights, and to establish their institutions in order to develop their life.

Al-Atrushi affirmed that the name of leader President Saddam Husayn will remain immortal in the minds and consciences of all Kurds and good people, who will not forget his kindness and concern.

PDPK Secretary General Visits al-Sulaymaniyah

NC0105080192 (Clandestine) Voice of the Kurdistan Revolution Radio in Arabic 1515 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] Sami 'Abd-al-Rahman, secretary general of the People's Democratic Party of Kurdistan [PDPK], arrived in al-Sulaymaniyah yesterday. He was accorded a grand welcome by the sons of the heroic city.

At around 1130 today Sami 'Abd-al-Rahman visited the teachers union in the city to supervise their elections. After that he visited the al-Sulaymaniyah industry [word indistinct] where female teachers were taking part in the elections.

Regime Reportedly Jamming VOA Kurdish Broadcasts

LD0205221292 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1818 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Kuwait, 2 May, (KUNA)—The Iraqi Government has started to jam the Kurdish-language broadcast transmitted by Voice of America (VOA). In a report from northern Iraq, the station (VOA) said: A feeling of dismay spread among the Kurdish residents this morning as they became aware of the jamming when they attempted to listen to the programs of the daily Kurdish broadcast.

VOA's monitoring and listening equipment in other places in the region confirmed that the Baghdad regime has carried out the jamming.

The VOA's Kurdish broadcast began a week ago. Its program, which starts at three GMT [not further specified], includes a news bulletin and current affairs program which lasts 15 minutes.

Invitations to 2 Multilateral Committees Rejected

TA0605185492 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Israel officially informed the United States and Russia that it will not participate in the deliberations of the committees on refugees and on economic development, to which diaspora Palestinian representatives have been invited. Our political correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that the United States and Russia, the cochairmen of the multilateral talks committees, yesterday sent the official invitations to all concerned parties in the Middle East and Europe to participate in the opening, in about a week, of the deliberations of the committee on regional disarmament, which will take place in Washington.

Shamir Comments on Peace Talks, Palestinians

TA0705101492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0705 GMT 7 May 92

["Special Independence Day" interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent Arye Golan; place and date not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Golan] Do you believe that eventually we will be able to reach true peace with the Palestinians who still—within the peace process—demand a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital?

[Shamir] No one expected them to refrain from this demand, but they know exactly what they can get and what they cannot. All the international elements, primarily the United States, know that as well. Despite the very deep and fundamental differences, however, the process continues, and I do not see that the Arab side is even thinking of stopping it. The process will, therefore, continue and we will seek a way to reach some sort of agreement. I hope that in time we will find one.

[Golan] What can we attain? What can they get? Autonomy is, after all, just an interim arrangement. What will happen later?

[Shamir] Theoretically, at least, the matter is simple; practically, it is not simple. We are not negotiating with a clean slate. We are making progress, or trying to make progress, along a track which is based, more or less, on the Camp David accords. The most significant part of the accords is the division of the process into two phases: the interim arrangement phase—calm study of the situation which will serve as a test case; and several years later, the negotiations will continue with the aim of attaining an agreement on the permanent solution. Now, we may hope that in time, we will reach the interim arrangement. Once we get there, we will know that we have reached a stage which advances us toward the desired solution.

[Golan] What is the desired solution?

[Shamir] Peace.

[Golan] While staying in all of the territories we have today?

[Shamir] Look, at this time we are not dealing with futurism. The Israeli stand is well known: Our stand today is that the peace solution will include no territorial elements. That is all.

[Golan] Will there be no territorial element in the agreement with Syria? Does Syria really want peace? We hear that it is arming itself with upgraded weapons.

[Shamir] There is no doubt that it is arming itself. It has still not reached an absolutely clear understanding that peace is the only way available to it. But the very fact that it continues explaining, that it makes the effort to explain that it really wants peace, is meaningful. Even if they are not fully sincere, this is what they claim. We will live and see.

[Golan] In the meantime we want to see the Syrian Jews leaving there. We have heard things about it, and you even received an official letter from President Bush on this.

[Shamir] All right. The issue is important to us, though I would not say that it should be included in our conditions for peace. This is, after all, a side issue. It is important that the Jews not suffer there, that they be treated as human beings, in a cultural manner. The recent Syrian promise is the minimum every man deserves.

[Golan] What about the territorial issue with Syria? Is there room to discuss the Golan Heights as far as you are concerned?

[Shamir] Our stand is clear: We cannot give up on the Golan Heights for various reasons. At the same time, negotiations will go on.

[Golan] Mr. Prime Minister, the multilateral talks for regional arrangements following the Moscow conference will begin in mid-May. Several issues are still unsettled, such as the Palestinian diaspora participation in two committees—to which the United States has agreed. How will this be solved?

[Shamir] I believe the time has not yet come to determine the nature of the multilateral talks. I could say that before the Madrid talks started we did not know how they would be conducted, and eventually the results were not all that bad. Therefore, it is hard to tell. The problems are complicated, primarily because of the participation of so many elements. This makes the issue more complex. Also, there are issues that have not yet been resolved through general agreement. I cannot envision a situation where we begin negotiations without consensus between the parties, at least between the negotiating parties and the cosponsors. The issues must be solved.

[Golan] How will the issue of participation of Palestinians from outside the territories be resolved? The United

States promised us that we will not sit with anyone we do not want to. On the other hand, Baker announced in Moscow that the diaspora may attend the committee on refugees, for example.

[Shamir] I believe that our stand is just. We have determined this principle before the Madrid talks. An agreement, based on the Madrid talks formula, must be reached. Therefore, I see no reason nor room for the participation of people which are hard to define. What is a diaspora anyway? We reject this absolutely.

[Golan] There were reports that Israel offered a compromise that such Palestinians may attend the talks as part of the Arab countries' delegations.

[Shamir] We wanted to show that we are looking for a solution which would allow the matter to be addressed because we are very interested in the refugee issue. We believe efforts must be made to solve the problem, and we are willing to contribute to it, one way or another. That is why we made that offer. I find it hard to believe that this issue will be dealt with in our absence.

[Golan] Was our offer rejected?

[Shamir] Of course it was.

[Golan] Do you contemplate other offers?

[Shamir] Not at this time. I believe it is totally unnecessary.

[Golan] What if those diaspora representative suddenly show up at the talks in Canada? What will the Israeli delegation do?

[Shamir] It will not be there. We will not take part in this committee, naturally.

[Golan] Foreign Minister David Levi reached an agreement in principle regarding the EC participation in the talks. What problems do you see in this?

[Shamir] Well, discussions are still going on, as there are things that need to be discussed. Arms supervision is a very important issue. It includes clauses calling for sincere relations of confidence between the negotiating parties. It must be assumed that the main part of the negotiations should be held between the countries of the region. Here we have a whole gallery of countries; therefore, we may be able to hold some theoretical discussions, seminars that would draw lessons from the experience of others, and so on. If, however, serious negotiations are sought to promote anything, we must settle for negotiations between the countries of the region with the cosponsors.

[Golan] And what status will Europe have?

[Shamir] This is not only about Europe; China, India, Turkey, and others also want a part in this.

[Golan] Is the problem simply being that those countries sell weapons to the Arab countries, making them unacceptable for you?

[Shamir] That too, but this is not the only thing. This is one of the reasons, but there are many others. I believe everyone knows them. Serious efforts are needed to find logical solutions.

[Golan] Do you believe it will all be settled and solutions will be found by mid-May?

[Shamir] I find it hard to believe, but we should never lose hope.

[Golan] President Bush wrote you a letter on Independence Day, which starts with the intimate address: Dear Yitzhaq, as he wrote it. This, however, is no indication that the guarantees are coming, that they no longer demand a settlement freeze, and that all is fine with Washington, is it?

[Shamir] The letter is very good in every aspect, I would say. It is friendly. It points out the positive aspects of cooperation between Israel and the United States. It points out the U.S. aid which has been given to Israel and will be given in the future. Naturally, it does not mention issues in dispute between us, and there is no need for that. I am very pleased with this letter of congratulations.

[Golan] What about the issues that are not mentioned?

[Shamir] We will discuss them. We are not through.

[Golan] Sir, what do you wish for the Israeli people and yourself on this 44th Independence Day?

[Shamir] I suggest we wish that when we reach the 45th Independence Day, the situation is not worse; rather, that it is better. I would like to see more progress in the political, defense, and economic spheres. At the same time, I would suggest that we hold a correct view of reality. A true evaluation of the situation shows that throughout its history Israel, the State of Israel, the Jewish state, has never been better than it is now.

[Golan] Do you believe that by next year, we will be able to speak of peace agreements with the Palestinians, Syria, and Jordan, in the past tense?

[Shamir] It is hard to make a commitment on such matters, but it is certainly possible that the man who speaks on behalf of the Likud, or the Likud-led government, will be able to say that after we have a reached an agreement on the interim arrangement, our teams are busy today preparing negotiations for the permanent solution.

[Golan] What do you mean by saying: the man speaking for the Likud? Will it not be you?

[Shamir] Who knows how long will I be able to deal with such matters? There is a limit to everything.

[Golan] What is your limit, sir?

[Shamir] I do not know.

[Golan] You are not planning retirement at this time?

[Shamir) I plan nothing at this stage.

[Golan] Mr. Prime Minister, thank you.

[Shamir] Thank you.

Officials Comment on Outcome of Ovitz Affair

Prisoner Exchange Deal Denied

TA0605163592 Tel Aviv Educational Television Network in Hebrew 1400 GMT 6 May 92

[Interview with Foreign Ministry Director General Yosef Hadas by Rafi Reshef in the studio—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Reshef] There were reports, Mr. Hadas, that Israel and Egypt reached an exchange deal, that in return for the release of Ovitz and the al-Misratis we released 10 Egyptian detainees. Can you confirm that?

[Hadas] Has anybody counted those 10 Egyptian or other detainees? There was no transaction involved. There can be no transaction involving a person of undoubted innocence.

[Reshef] It seems to me unprecedented that a person, Faris al- Misrati, the father, who had already been sentenced to three and a half years in prison for contempt of court should be suddenly released.

[Hadas] After the sentencing they needed to continue to investigate the other charges. The moment they reached the conclusion that none of the other charges held water, they realized the rashness of that instantaneous sentence, which was a reaction to a loss of temper by Faris al-Misrati.

[Reshef) Still, despite all the talk about Egyptian bureaucracy, al-Misrati, who had been sentenced for three and a half years, was suddenly released, even though they had correct charges regarding his forged documents.

[Hadas] As I have said, they apparently reached the conclusion....[changes thought] Somebody there, be it the intelligence or certain other services, wanted to attribute to him an espionage affair in which Israel was supposedly involved. The moment they discovered that was totally unfounded, the responsible authorities drew the appropriate conclusion, and it was not worth their while to proceed with the sentence. The matter for which they sentenced him was clearly outweighed by the espionage charge that was the cause for his detention. That is my assessment. I cannot say anything further at this stage.

[Reshef] Mr. Hadas, to what extent was Husni Mubarak personally involved in this?

[Hadas] Well, yes, Foreign Minister David Levi wrote a letter to 'Amr Musa, his counterpart, asking him to brief President Mubarak, to let him know exactly how matters stand, how we see them. He asked that they take our view into account when they decided on their continued handling of the affair. The result is that today, on the eve of Independence Day, David Ovitz and the al-Misratis returned to their families.

[Reshef] Can we draw a parallel between this case and that of Yosef Tehan, who has been in jail for eight years already and who was originally sentenced to death?

[Hadas] Look, he has been imprisoned for eight years already. The death penalty was not carried out. Tehan was charged, and the charge was apparently very clear, with serious drug offenses. We intervened to have his jail conditions eased. Whether or not the Egyptian authorities show mercy, we will see in the future. There is no comparison between the two cases. [passage omitted]

Shamir on Ties With Egypt

TA0605171792 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 May 92

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent Shlomo Ganor at the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem on 6 May—recorded]

[Text] [Ganor] Mr. Prime Minister, what is your reaction to the release of the four Israeli citizens, the al-Misratis and Ovitz, from Egypt?

[Shamir] It is good this is over, good that they were released. It would have been better if they had not been detained in the first place, but since they were, it is good that they were released.

[Ganor] Mr. Prime Minister, were you personally involved in the release? Did you speak with any Egyptian personage?

[Shamir] What do you mean by personally? The whole government was involved; each made his contribution. Naturally, it was the duty of the Foreign Ministry to handle this affair, and it was primarily that ministry that was active here. At a certain stage I also intervened and had a single conversation with the Egyptian president.

[Ganor] How would you characterize that conversation?

[Shamir] It was a good and friendly conversation. The results are the important thing, and they were good. He promised he would act to bring this matter to a conclusion, to a desirable and positive conclusion, and he kept his promise.

[Ganor] Has this entailed an Israeli gesture?

[Shamir] There is no need for Israeli gestures.

[Ganor] Will this affair affect relations between the two countries?

[Shamir] I do not think so. I do not think it will have an impact. There were various kinds of incidents in the

past. I do not want to mention any here, but there were sad chapters in our relations. This is part of the regional reality.

[Ganor] Would you recommend that Israeli citizens touring Egypt exercise caution?

[Shamir] Look, I need not issue any particular warnings. Israeli citizens have reasons to be careful anywhere in the world.

[Ganor] Mr. Prime Minister, on the eve of Independence Day, what do you wish the State of Israel?

[Shamir] I wish the country and its people a state of peace, full security, economic progress and well-being, social well-being, growth of the economy and population, and increased aliyah. Those things exist more or less, but I would like to have them on a larger scale.

[Ganor] Happy holiday to you.

[Shamir] Happy holiday.

Shamir Interviewed on Security, Economy

TA0605192792 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 6 May 92

["Special Independence Day" interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent Gadi Sukenik at the prime minister's office on 6 May—recorded]

[Text] [Sukenik] Mr. Prime Minister, the State of Israel is a year older. This is perhaps the moment when the citizens would like to look into their prime minister's eye and ask: Has time been used well?

[Shamir] First of all, happy holiday. Tonight Israel is rejoicing in its holiday, and I think it has many reasons for celebration. We make progress every year, and it can be said time is on our side. We have made progress in bringing the Jewish nation to Eretz Yisra'el: Every year brings its contribution and a significant one at that.

Regarding our security, we all feel it is stronger and sounder. The great backer of some in our region, which endowed our most extreme enemies with a certain confidence, has disappeared. A peace process is in progress on terms we had requested.

[Sukenik] Speaking of Israel's security and the Israeli deterrence, what is our guarantee that we will not be unprotected if another fusillade of missiles is dropped on our heads?

[Shamir] Our power of deterrence has undoubtedly not lessened; it is there. Our prestige in other countries is constantly rising, as can be seen in our widening political ties and in the number of countries with which we maintain diplomatic relations. I do not think we have any cause for complaint.

[Sukenik] Still, who will guarantee there will be no more such attacks? They can be nonconventional—nuclear or chemical.

[Shamir] There is no guarantee, no assurance that there will be no snags, but Israel has means and a political infrastructure with which it can confront any kind of attack.

[Sukenik] In general, is the Israeli citizen more protected from his enemies today?

[Shamir] There is no doubt that the more the countries on the other side of the border realize that they cannot defeat Israel with violence—that they must reach a peace settlement—the greater our citizens' security is. That realization is growing throughout the region around us.

[Sukenik] What about economic independence? Most experts think we are not getting any closer to economic independence.

[Shamir] Look, no country in the world has economic independence. Look at the economic map: All the countries, strong and ailing alike, depend upon each other to some extent. There is no talk of economic independence; there is talk of productivity, of certain assets. I believe our economic strength is developing constantly, our national economy is expanding from year to year. Naturally, there are many unsolved problems, such as the need for greater economic growth. We are marching in an internationally accepted direction—that of a free economy, of a market economy, of less state and government interference.

[Sukenik] How does one solve the problem of unemployment, which reaches new highs again and again?

[Shamir] Having absorbed so many new destitute citizens who arrived in a very short time—400,000 immigrants, while our entire population is between 4 and 5 million—we cannot expect there to be no unemployment or problems with the absorption of immigrants. Absorption problems do exist. We can only console ourselves with the fact that there are signs this entire problem is about to abate in the coming years. I once spoke of maturing investments: When the investments do mature, the economy will expand and new jobs will be created. I think we are involved in unceasing progress.

[Sukenik] What solution do you have for the boiling pressure cooker in the territories—Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza?

[Shamir] The peace process! That is the solution; that is the answer. The entire cauldron cannot be calmed. What is needed is the safeguarding of security and the elimination of violence on the one hand, and peace negotiations on the other. I think if we review the present security situation in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza, we will see that fewer and fewer people—I mean, Arabs—in that area even dream that Israel can be overcome with violence, with riots, or with terrorism.

[Sukenik] Mr. Prime Minister, it is easy to guess what you wish yourself on the eve of Independence Day, just a few weeks prior to the elections. But what do you wish us, the electorate?

[Shamir] I wish all the citizens of Israel steady progress toward more peace and security. We are marching in that direction.

'Sharp' Drop in Interest in Settling Territories

TA0605112092 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 6 May 92 p 6

[Report by Shlomo Dror]

[Excerpt] The campaign to populate the territories organized by the Council of Jewish Settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip includes Rehelim, although the site—where there is a Nahal outpost and a settlers' vigil—has not been approved as a settlement by government authorities. A settlement attempt was made at Rehelim after the murder of Rahel Druck and Yitzhaq Rofe, but the Army evacuated the mobile homes and set up an outpost at the site.

Nevertheless, based on information released on the campaign to populate the territories, it appears that there are preparations to sell land to build homes there. Under the plan, land to build 300 housing units on 70 square meters each will be offered on the site.

The campaign itself is going at a snail's pace. Following the high demand during the operation's opening days and during Passover there has been a drop in the number of inquiries. The data show that 431 housing units were sold in the territories in the past three months, which indicates a sharp slowdown despite the holiday period when there was a large increase in sales and despite the extensive publicity the campaign has received. [passage omitted]

EC Blamed for Trying To 'Torpedo' Accord

TA0605111292 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 6 May 92 p C3

[Text] Israeli officials blame the EC for trying to torpedo the negotiations on a free trade accord with EFTA [European Free Trade Area]. They said that the EC has already managed to remove from the accords various clauses which did not match its interests.

The negotiations on the agreement, which have gone on for over a year, are expected to be renewed in the coming days. The official EC position is that Israel must be prevented from joining the "European space" (the new body made up of the EC and EFTA) through the back door via a trade accord with EFTA.

Turkey managed to improve its status with the EC indirectly after it signed a free trade accord with EFTA.

One of the clauses EC officials managed to remove from the draft accord between Israel and EFTA refers to the aspiration of both sides to include Israel in the European space. As is known, the EC position is that Israel's participation in the European space must be linked to progress in the peace process.

The main dispute which now holds up the signing of the agreement is Israel's determination to continue to impose customs on fish imports. Iceland has already announced it will not sign the agreement if Israel continues to insist on that demand.

Sources in the Industry and Trade Ministry explain that fish imports from Iceland are not the issue since the fish are expensive and therefore do not threaten local fishermen, but if Israel gives in on the fish quotas from Iceland it will also have to yield on quotas on fish from other European countries and the United States.

Prime Minister Karami's Resignation Statement

NC0605145292 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1318 GMT 6 May 92

[Statement by Lebanese Prime Minister 'Umar Karami on 6 May in Beirut—recorded]

[Text] Dear citizens, everyone remembers the circumstances that prevailed when this government was formed. The country was suffering internal conflicts and disputes, absence of security, spread of anarchy, breakup of state institutions, weakness of the legitimate government in the face of illegitimate factors, and the near total absence of the general services sector.

After the national accord charter was approved and the constitutional amendments were passed, it was necessary to exert huge efforts to reunite the people, the land, and institutions, spread state authority throughout Lebanon, and set up a new government through which full national reconciliation would be realized. This would end the state of war in the country and open a new page of peace, construction, and building.

This government was formed for this purpose. Since its formation, it has been considered a national reconciliation government representing most political currents and forces. These must meet and sit around one table of dialogue in order to save the homeland where supreme national interests would be the objective and goal.

This government was formed to implement the spirit of al-Ta'if's national agreement, which stressed the need for uniting contradictory sides and parties to the military conflict into one party, bearing in mind all the responsibilities, burdens, commitments, and conflicting stands imposed by the circumstances of bloody confrontation that prevailed in this country for 16 years.

Through the formation of this government, real and complete national reconciliation was expected to be established to put an end to the abnormal circumstances in the country, place it on the way to political stability, and facilitate the means of dealing with the economic, financial, and social problems left behind by the previous years.

True, diverting from government solidarity is nothing new in the history of Lebanese governments. The history of governmental action since independence has seen numerous examples of the absence of solidarity under normal circumstances. However, it is also true that under the crucial circumstances the country is going through now, it is not at all permissible to deviate from the principle of government solidarity, regardless of the reasons and causes out of concern for the interests of the homeland, the state, and the people.

Therefore, since the first day we assumed responsibility, we affirmed in word and deed the need for governmental solidarity to realize the march of salvation, accord, and solidarity. We see nothing wrong in announcing that adherence to governmental solidarity has not always been complete. We have suffered from this situation ourselves. Nevertheless, when we formed this government we knew beforehand that returning to democratic principles after a long absence from them would continue to be a difficult achievement, but we accepted this responsibility. We set before our eyes the objective of restoring respect for the principles on which democratic states are built, even if gradually.

Despite all the difficulties, the government succeeded in eliminating the abnormal situation prevailing in the country. It succeeded in restoring security and stability, dissolving militias, withdrawing heavy arms from the armed men, and fragmenting the statelets in the interest of the centralized and unified government. The government restored its authority and sovereignty over all Lebanese territories with the exception of the occupied part in the south and western al-Biqa'. It also succeeded in sending the Army to the south despite the dangers and threats surrounding this step. These are very important achievements which placed the country along the road of comprehensive and sound salvation. They also restored hope to the people for a better and brighter future.

In this context, we will confine ourselves to mentioning, in outline, some of the achievements made. They are not meager achievements.

1. We implemented a comprehensive security plan with the aim of gradually establishing the state's authority over all Lebanese territories relying only on the state's own capabilities.

2. We confronted the evacuees issue and drew up a working plan to settle this problem decisively. This plan is nearly complete.

3. We filled vacant parliamentary seats in accordance with constitutional amendments.

4. We formulated a bill to establish an economic and social council. This bill was referred to the Chamber of Deputies on 4 April 1991.

5. We formulated a bill to establish a constitutional council. This bill was referred to the Chamber of Deputies on 28 November 1991.

6. We formulated and approved the General Pardon Law to eliminate the effects of the war and open a new chapter of peace.

7. We revitalized Lebanon's role within the Arab group, its foreign relations with friendly countries and international organizations, participated in international and regional conferences and meetings after a long absence, and restored an effective Lebanese presence on the world stage.

8. We concluded the Lebanese-Syrian Treaty of Brotherhood, Coordination, and Cooperation to establish stable rules and principles for relations between the two countries.

9. We tackled numerous educational issues connected with the future of Lebanese youth, including the formulation of a bill for compulsory education in the elementary stage and referred it to the Chamber of Deputies. We formulated and approved the private school fees law. We drew up a plan to boost state schools and formulated a document on educational goals. We held official examinations in a conscientious and serious manner and approved a plan to organize representative academic councils at the Lebanese University.

10. We revitalized public services at the ministries and government departments, which were in a state of semiparalysis during the war years. These services were revitalized and upgraded despite the exhaustion afflicting the administrative branch during the war. Electric services were gradually restored to all Lebanese areas although sometimes in an interrupted or unstable manner. Irrigation and drinking water was provided for everyone. Telecommunications were improved. Hospitalization was provided for the poor at government expense, particularly with regard to intricate or costly surgery. Freeways, roads, and streets were repaired in most areas according to a still continuing timetable. Lebanese ports again became operational after they were regained from illegitimate de facto forces. Air traffic was restored to its previous level after the necessary repairs were made to the airport. The methods of joint land transport in the capital were rehabilitated to ease the internal transport crisis. Measures were also adopted to regulate the presence of foreign workers to safeguard the interests of Lebanese workers and guarantee job opportunities for them on the domestic labor market.

11. We remedied the financial and economic situation with a series of measures. It was not easy to adopt and fully implement these measures amid the general atmosphere that prevailed in government agencies and departments, the huge responsibilities inherent in rebuilding the country's infrastructure and reconstructing all public facilities, the accumulating and ever-growing budget deficit, and the withholding of promised aid and loans. Aid was withheld although Lebanon had carried out its commitments to the concerned countries and funds by repaying installments of earlier loans. Moreover the commitment to establish the international-Arab fund for Lebanon, one of the provisions of the national accord agreement, was not implemented.

Citizens, ever since serious talk about a Middle East peace conference began and we were invited to attend, we realized that the timing of the conference, the issues that were going to be raised, and the prevaricating Israeli stance would constitute a means of pressure on or an obstacle to the process of peace, building, and reconstruction in Lebanon. We took care to issue warnings about the dangers of this crucial stage on numerous occasions, urging national solidarity, not merely governmental solidarity, to surmount this stage with the least possible damage.

Clear signs began to appear gradually, showing that external pressure on Lebanon increases according to its political position. Lebanon rejects the Israeli plans aimed at maintaining the occupation of part of Lebanon as long as possible. It rejects the Israeli position linking the Israeli withdrawal either to the conclusion of a separate bilateral agreement between Lebanon and Israel—similar to the ill-fated 17 May agreement—or to the outcome of the peace conference negotiations in the long run. Israel seeks to drag Lebanon to the multilateral negotiations aimed at normalizing relations between Israel and the Arab countries before any positive or tangible progress is made in the bilateral negotiations. Israel seeks to apply pressure on Lebanon to end the resistance in the south before Israeli withdrawal. Our rejection of this pressure is a national expression of our conviction of our people's right to struggle by any means to liberate our land and restore complete sovereignty.

In this respect, we must put on record the Israeli position and statements that consider that the armistice agreement between Lebanon and Israel has become null and void, and that the Israeli withdrawal hinges on the signing of a separate agreement between Lebanon and Israel. Lebanon's insistence on Israeli withdrawal in implementation of Security Council Resolution 425 goes with the saying that he who sows the wind reaps the storm. These warnings and threats were accompanied by positions and statements seeking to escalate the situation politically and mobilize the people psychologically so as to undermine national accord and reconciliation and disavow commitment to the national accord document in letter and spirit.

O citizens: It is not surprising, except to those who are biased, that the war secretly planned by plotters to strike at the people through their staples is harsher than bullets and guns. This plot came at a time that can be characterized by two factors:

1. The government set out to draft plans to rebuild the infrastructure and make studies to requalify the Lebanese administration. It started reconstruction and development projects beginning in Beirut's commercial area. It prepared to solve the evacuees issue, prepared for parliamentary elections that express free Lebanese will and adherence to sound democratic concepts. It began to find drastic solutions to economic, financial, and monetary issues that would have given yield had the country not been affected by this growing negative atmosphere.

2. The government adopted a firm national stand on confronting the Israeli challenges and external pressure. It insisted on an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon in implementation of Security Council Resolutions 425 before entering any talks or negotiations that have nothing to do with Lebanon, at least for now.

To confront this situation, a national and conscientious position was essential. We all should have risen above all wounds, differences, emotions, and leanings. We are dealing with a financial and monetary war waged against

the Lebanese people as they were waging the battle of peace after artillery, rockets, killing, kidnapping, and destruction were the?means of the destructive war. that was launched against the Lebanese people to destroy their unity and the foundations of their survival.

O citizens: In a democratic country like Lebanon, there is no danger when one government resigns or another one is formed. This is taken for granted in a democracy. There is danger, however, when the homeland falls, the state is assassinated, or the people are slaughtered. This is not only dangerous but is rejected. We will spare no blood to prevent such a development.

The circumstances Lebanon is currently going through are dangerous and extremely delicate. This situation poses a major question: Are we indeed for national accord and reconciliation? Are we really for salvation and genuine peace? Do we really believe in the national accord document and are we really working to complete its implementation? My answer to this question is that we have chosen to save the homeland. We have complied with the march of accord and peace. All Lebanese should affirm their commitment to this choice and decision.

To affirm this choice with collective responsibility that can protect the major achievements attained and stand up to the suspect plans, I declare the resignation of the government. I call on everyone to adopt a conscientious stand so that the national goals are united and the people's aspirations and hopes can be realized. This big responsibility cannot be borne by anyone alone. May you live and may Lebanon live.

President al-Hirawi on 'Critical' Situation

NC0605181692 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 6 May 92

[Speech by Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi at the opening of a Medical Conference at the American University of Beirut [AUB] on 6—recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] I want to say that by nature the Lebanese did not want the war in Lebanon. The Lebanese did not want this war of others on their land. Now that the gunfire has stopped for good and barriers have been removed, the Lebanese people, who never believed in war on their land, want not only to restore Lebanon to what it was in 1975, but to catch up with developments they missed over the past 17 years.

The Lebanese citizen failed to realize that he has a right to make demands on the government. The government should offer citizens what they want. Regrettably, the Lebanese people know that the funds that used to flow into their homeland—arms and money for the militias—were sent by tendentious forces that wanted the war in Lebanon. [applause] When the guns stopped—we were ready for this decision—the barriers were removed, the army was unified, the country was united, and the people got together, all the aid stopped. This suggests that Lebanon existed to take aid for war and not peace. [applause]

After concluding the al-Ta'if agreement, I wondered if we had sufficient funds to deposit grants. Where is the international-Arab fund for the reconstruction of Lebanon? When we demand grants, we do not forget that after World War II, had it not been for the Marshal Plan, destruction and devastation would still prevail in Europe today.

They are demanding two German hostages, but they forget that the whole of Lebanon was a hostage in the hands of others. [applause] They forget that up to this moment, they did nothing to implement Resolution 425 to liberate the south. [applause]

If the aid were to be at the expense of Lebanon's independence and the Lebanese people's freedom, we do not want it. I appeal to all the Lebanese to live a period of austerity until we can overcome this ordeal, because we do not want to gain some money and lose Lebanon, its independence, and freedom. [applause]

From this forum I appeal to those who called for the strike to be patriots. Without peace there will be no Lebanon and no independence. I appeal to every citizen to rally around the homeland rather than around individuals to save our country. I request this so that we will not be forced to take other measures we can do without. We will never allow recriminations to return to the streets. We will not allow biased people who take to the streets to scuttle the ship of peace. We have devoted ourselves to peace. [applause]

With love and brotherhood, I appeal to everyone to return to our nobility. I say we need trust. Trust was recently (?lost). We want to be patient to be worthy of our independence, freedom, and homeland.

I say this proceeding from Article 49 of the Constitution. The president is the head of state and the symbol of the homeland's unity. He takes care that the Constitution is respected and he safeguards Lebanon's independence, unity, and territorial integrity according to the provisions of the Constitution. Proceeding from this article I appeal to everyone through these various radio stations and I state that circumstances are critical. We must all rally around the homeland and not individuals. May Lebanon live and may the AUB live. [applause]

Minister Blames Karami Downfall on 'Conspiracy'

NC0605185092 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 6 May 92

[Interview with Minister of State 'Abdallah al-Amin by unidentified Voice of Lebanon correspondent following Prime Minister 'Umar Karami's resignation in Beirut on 6 May—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Former minister 'Abdallah al-Amin, the government has resigned. You and Minister Dallul were in the picture as the resignation atmosphere developed, when the resignation took place, and Prime Minister 'Umar Karami made his statement. What is your comment? What happens now?

[Al-Amin] No doubt his excellency the prime minister's statement accurately and truthfully expressed the entire experience of the government and the ways it confronted domestic and foreign developments. It portrayed this government's difficulties and achievements. Actually, during its tenure, this government presented a model that is unique in Lebanon. Circumstances and the conspiracy placed all the Lebanese people before two clear alternatives: the government model and what the people are now witnessing in the streets. The battle—the conspiracy—is designed to return the Lebanese to their former situation. A specimen of such a situation was presented to them yesterday and today. This is the alternative model to the national accord government. Now that the government has resigned, the Lebanese people must choose one of these two models—either a state or this chaos that actually paves the way to a restoration of the situation that existed before this government came. May God spare Lebanon and the Lebanese this grave evil that the conspirators have prepared. It is necessary to speak frankly. We suffered a lot but our ease of conscience exceeds our suffering.

[Correspondent] Minister 'Abdallah al-Amin, did you discuss the fate of the strike following the resignation? Are efforts being made to halt the strike to prevent it from developing into acts of sabotage and disorder?

[Al-Amin] I believe that the question is now being put to the consciences of those who publicly brought about the strike. If the intention is to make the government resign, it has done so. If the aim is sabotage and the restoration of disorder in the country, this is their choice and they must bear the responsibility.

[Correspondent] Thank you, Minister 'Abdallah al-Amin.

[Al-Amin] Thank you.

Walid Junblatt Welcomes Government Resignation

NC0605131192 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 6 May 92

[Statement by Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt; date and place not given—ready by announcer]

[Excerpt] What we have expected for months, ever since this government was formed on such a bad basis and an even worse interpretation of the al-Ta'if accord, has at last happened. When I tried to sound the alarm, no one listened. The so-called national unity government is burning on the fire of the people's hunger, and more catastrophic events are yet to come. The government's bad performance, corruption, and myopia, and the ongoing pressure that the naive government calls a plot, led to this revolution by the starving people. We had warned earlier that the people would revolt. There is a plot, but it was the bad performance of the al- Ta'if accord that brought down the government. Perhaps it will render the al-Ta'if accord null and void. The government must step down and be replaced by a new and serious one to avoid even worse developments. [passage omitted]

Hizballah Official—Resignation Was Expected

NC0705092492 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 7 May 92

[Text] Hizballah Deputy Secretary General Shaykh Na'im Qasim has said that he had expected the government to resign because of the degree of foreign intervention and the regime's poor internal performance. Several other factors also brought the government down, he said, adding: Any future government that fails to deal with the causes of the crisis will collapse as well. If certain basic rules are not taken into consideration, he noted, no government will be able to rescue the homeland. These rules, he continued, must be based on ending foreign intervention, especially U.S. intervention.

Shaykh Qasim said we should not depend on political and economic promises, regardless of whether they deal with the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 425 or foreign aid to Lebanon. We should not adopt the sectarian system as a basis for any future solution because the system within it the seed of an explosion, he added.

Shaykh Qasim said that the next government must build an infrastructure in the deprived areas so that the people feel that their taxes are being spent properly. In addition, more attention should be paid to resisting the Zionist enemy and supporting the people's standfastness in the south and western al-Biqa', Qasim said, adding: Lebanon should also withdraw from the bilateral talks, which have brought calamities to Lebanon.

Shaykh Qasim said that demonstrations and strikes are natural because the people can no longer bear the collapsing economic situation. In conclusion, Qasim called on the people to resume work today.

National, Islamic Parties Urge End to Strike

NC0605180092 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] After a meeting of the national and Islamic forces in his office, Minister of State Nabih Birri called on the Lebanese people to rise up to national responsibility and maintain calm. He asked the General Labor Federation and all unions to stop the strike and observe a normal working day tomorrow. He called on officials and the parties concerned to quickly form a government that will safeguard the national accord and work to complete liberation of the land from occupation.

[Begin Birri recording] As soon as His Excellency 'Umar Karami declared the resignation of his government, the national and Islamic parties and forces held an expanded meeting in the office of Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri [as heard]. After deliberating the serious situation the homeland is going through, these parties and forces issued the following statement:

1. They call on all Lebanese factions to rise up to national responsibility, restore calm, and avoid any action that may disturb security and public life.

2. They call on the General Labor Federation and all unions to stop the strike this evening and to observe a normal working day tomorrow. We (?maintain) that the war being launched against the Lebanese people can be confronted through work and not by obstructing it. Attacking public and private property, closing roads, and crippling life will drive us to a catastrophe.

3. The conferees emphasized to the officials and parties concerned to quickly form a government that will safeguard the march of national accord, secure a decent life for the people, restore confidence in the country's economy, work to complete liberation of the land from the Israeli enemy, and cap its Arab and international relations with a genuine translation of the special ties with Syria. [end recording]

Minister Terms Strike 'Act of Sedition, Sabotage'

NC0605201192 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 6 May 92

[Interview with Agriculture Minister Muhsin Dallul by an unidentified Voice of Lebanon correspondent following Prime Minister 'Umar Karami's resignation in Beirut on 6 May—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Minister Muhsin Dallul, the government has resigned. You and Minister 'Abdallah al-Amin were in the picture as preparations were made for the government's resignation and Prime Minister 'Umar Karami's statement. Can you tell us what will happen now? Do you have any comment?

[Dallul] My comment is identical to my earlier stance. I do not believe that this government is responsible for the current situation. A general feeling has been mobilized with ulterior motives. This feeling is not merely an anti-government one. If it were so, it would be a simple matter. Certain plans are being cooked up against the country, against the homeland. For this reason I used to urge all parties to examine their positions carefully before taking action. What is the meaning of a strike that turned into demonstrations by boys here and there, breaking, sabotaging, storming the stores of innocent peaceable citizens? This is what I feared and used to warn about. A call for a strike must be accompanied by a legitimate program and properly studied demands. It should not take place just like that.

They called for a strike, they sabotaged, they roused the media and citizens. What was the result? The economic situation cannot be remedied by a demonstration of boys who spread out in the streets, throw stones at vehicles and stores, burn tires, and pour inflammable material here and there. These are acts of sabotage that remind us of past tragedies. The government has resigned. The government is not the problem. Those who incite the citizens are the problem. What do they want from Lebanon? These people stand to lose if security, stability, and peace prevail in the country. It is they who incite and put the conspiracy into operation. We hope that we will reach positive results in the economic sphere and that those who come after us will succeed in remedying this economic crisis because the people really must be informed of the facts so that they will be reassured and comforted. We have rid the people of ourselves to comfort them. We hope that those who come after us will not be a burden and an obstacle to them.

[Correspondent] Your Excellency Minister Dallul, do you think it will be easy to form a new government?

[Dallul] I cannot foresee the future. The government has resigned. Now it is the turn of the people who incited, called for, and encouraged the resignation to act. If they have a program or plan, it is they who are supposed to announce if the formation of a new cabinet will or will not be delayed. If they have nothing ready... [sentence incomplete as heard] I hear that the labor unions are demanding a say in the matter. I do not know, but perhaps the demonstrators want to have a say in the matter as well. I do not know, but I have noticed that these demonstrations have been intentionally provoked—stone attacks on the houses of the ministers and some other officials. I consider this an act of sedition and sabotage, not a demand for bread. We must stop profiteering by the livelihood of the poor and deprived. We must stop regarding the poor as a commodity that can be bargained over.

[Correspondent] Your Excellency Minister Dallul, to prevent the strike from being used as an introduction to sabotage, are any efforts being made to halt or suspend the strike?

[Dallul] First of all, the strike was staged in an illogical manner. When they declared a four-day strike only one day before it was due to begin it seemed as if they were driving people to rush to buy their needs. Prices soared as a result. What is the purpose of the strike? If the aim is the government's resignation, it has resigned. If there is another purpose, why were they inciting the citizens? Do they want to create a government crisis? Do they want to restore the situation that existed during the war? I do not know. I smell something foul. I hope it will not turn out to be so. I hope that I am wrong.

[Correspondent] Thank you, Your Excellency Minister Muhsin Dallul.

[Dallul] Thank you.

Labor Leadership Group To Suspend Strike 8 May

NC0705105492 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 7 May 92

[Text] The General Labor Federation and the Trade Union Emergency Committee have to decided to suspend the strike beginning tomorrow morning. A statement issued after a meeting between the two bodies gave the state 10 days to form a new government. The statement said that the government's resignation is the first step towards establishing an authority capable of reining in the collapse. The statement linked the suspension of the strike to conditions and principles, foremost of which is the formation of a new government capable of confronting national and economic issues. The statement said that the government's policy statement must include a clear reference to national detente, public and media freedoms, return of refugees, and the holding of elections on the basis of one constituency.

Further on Strike Suspension Plan

NC0705075992 Paris AFP in English 0739 GMT 7 May 92

[Text] Beirut, May 7 (AFP) - A general strike called Tuesday by Lebanon's General Workers' Confederation [LGWC], which brought down the government of Prime Minister 'Umar Karami, will be lifted Thursday morning, an LGWC representative told AFP. "We'll suspend the strike order to allow the creation of a new government able to settle the economic crisis. A meeting on the issue is underway," said Habib Zaydan, the union's secretary general.

The four-day work stoppage, which started Wednesday morning, also triggered violent protests across the country as thousands of demonstrators burned tires and attacked banks, shops and cars. At least 15 people were wounded by gunfire in the disturbances.

The confederation had vowed to bring down the Karami government for its failure to stem the collapse of the national currency and a consequent surge in prices that has impoverished tens of thousands of Lebanese.

PFLP Said Running 'Terrorist' Training Camp

NC0705083192 (Clandestine) Voice of the South in Arabic to Lebanon 0730 GMT 7 May 92

[Text] Our military correspondent has reported that security sources have said that the George Habash organization [the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, PFLP] is running a terrorist training camp in al-Biqa'. The correspondent added that several Hizballah members are being trained at the camp to carry out terrorist operations in Israel.

The correspondent noted that the training camp is under Syrian control and that Syria is paying no attention to the ongoing training. Security officials are keeping close watch on the training camp and say that its operations will eventually be curbed.

Afghanistan

Hekmatyar, Mas'ud Confirm Cease-Fire Agreement

BK0605152892 Hong Kong AFP in English 1518 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Peshawar, May 6 (AFP)—The party of hardline mojahedin leader Golboddin Hekmatyar confirmed in Pakistan Wednesday that a ceasefire had been agreed by all mojahedin factions in the Kabul area.

The Hezb-e Eslami-sponsored AFGHAN NEWS AGENCY (ANA) said a ceasefire agreement had been signed at 8:00 a.m. local time (0300 GMT) Wednesday. "Since then the warring sides have silenced their guns," it said.

Spelling out the terms, the agency said militia forces would be expelled from Kabul and replaced by joint mojahedin forces and the security of the city would also be handed over to "joint and acceptable" mojahedin troops.

A third condition was that a joint mojahedin force would take up position between the Hezb and the militia, to oversee the militia's withdrawal.

ANA said Hekmatyar had asked for a meeting of the mojahedin leadership council outside the city on Thursday.

The agency quoted Hekmatyar as saying he would attend the leadership council meeting if it was held outside Kabul.

The Hezb leader said the announcement of a "caretaker" cabinet by the interim council headed by Sebghatollah Mojaddedi and other "important" matters should be discussed by the leadership council.

[In a related report, Hong Kong AFP in English at 1356 GMT on 6 May reports the following: "Afghan Defence Minister Ahmed Shah Mas'ud confirmed Wednesday that a ceasefire agreement had been signed to end fighting between his troops and forces of his arch-rival Golboddin Hekmatyar.

" 'Yes,' Mas'ud told AFP, nodding his head in affirmation, when asked for confirmation that a pact had been signed.

" 'I will talk later,' he added when pressed for details during a brief conversation here.

"Ayatollah Mohseni, a member of the interim council heading Kabul, said separately that he hoped 'something will be announced in a few days.'

" 'As you can see, people are respecting it,' Mohseni said of the ceasefire."]

Rabbani, Hekmatyar To Meet 7 May

LD0605180192 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Our Afghan correspondents report that Afghanistan is calm following the cease-fire declaration. Rabbani, leader of the Jam'iyat-e Eslami, said today that Hekmatyar, head of the Hezb-e Eslami, answered his letter and agreed to uphold the Afghan cease-fire, adding that he, Hekmatyar, and officials of Afghanistan's Islamic government will meet on this issue near Kabul on 7 May. Rabbani said in an interview with the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran: We would like our country's problems to be solved peacefully. On the Afghan mojahedin groups' participation in the future Afghan government, Rabbani said: All Afghan mojahedin groups and parties should play a role in the future government. He added: The role of the brothers from the Hezb-e Wahdat-e Eslami, with their 14 years of Islamic struggle, is noteworthy in that regard, and their rights should not be ignored.

Rabbani To Take Over as President

BK0605164892 Hong Kong AFP in English 1642 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, May 6 (AFP)—Hardline mojahedin leader Golboddin Hekmatyar agreed Wednesday to a ceasefire in Kabul, ending bitter fighting with forces of his rival Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, the AFGHAN NEWS AGENCY (ANA) said.

A ceasefire agreement based on three terms including the expulsion of militia from Kabul had been signed at 0800 (0300 GMT) Wednesday and "the warring sides have silenced their guns," said ANA.

The lull came after two weeks of bitter fighting that left about 300 people dead and up to 3,000 injured according to unofficial estimates in Kabul.

The ceasefire terms were agreed upon by "all" parties, said the Peshawar-based ANA, which is run by Hekmatyar's Hezb-e Eslami.

It quoted the Hezb leader as saying a timeframe for the withdrawal of militia would be decided by a meeting of the mojahedin leadership council expected to be held on Thursday.

The agency said Hekmatyar had told it by radio from Afghanistan that he would attend the meeting if it was held outside Kabul.

ANA said joint mojahedin forces would replace the militia in Kabul and look after security in the city while similar "joint and acceptable" mojahedin forces would be positioned between Hezb troops and the militia, apparently to oversee the latter's withdrawal.

It claimed that Hezb mojahedin had overrun a number of militia bases during the past two days, making them "highly frustrated."

Less than an hour later, ANA also reported that a "fresh" agreement had been signed between Hekmatyar and Jam'iyat-e Eslami chief and president-designate, Borhanoddin Rabbani.

This agreement confirmed the ceasefire terms, besides laying down that Rabbani should take over as president immediately and proceed to hold presidential elections within six months and general elections within a year.

A three-member delegation of mojahedin leaders obtained the signature of Rabbani on the agreement Wednesday morning and it later reached Sarowbi, 60 kilometers (35 miles) from the city, for signing by Hekmatyar, ANA said.

Council Abolishes Former Regime Institutions

LD0605172492 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] The first session of the Leadership Council was convened today in the Golkhana Palace chaired by esteemed Professor Borhanoddin Rabbani, head of the Leadership Council, and attended by esteemed Prof. Hazrat Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, Mowlawi Mohammad Nabi Mohammadi, Grand Ayatollah Mohammad Asef Mohseni, Engineer Ahmad Shah, and Haji 'Abdol Qayum, on behalf of their respective organizations.

Esteemed Grand Ayatollah Mohammad Asef Mohseni, the secretary and spokesman of the Leadership Council, gave the following information to a BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY correspondent about the decisions taken at the Council session:

In this session, which was convened in an atmosphere of complete understanding and unanimity of view among the leaders of the organizations, the following decisions were approved by majority votes:

Abolition of the cabinet of the former regime.

Abolition of all those laws and resolutions that are contrary to Islamic Shari'ah.

Abolition of the two houses of the Melli Shura [National Assembly]—the Sena and Wolasi Jerga.

Abolition of the State Security Ministry with all its organizations.

Abolition of the Homeland [Watan] Party.

Meting out justice to traitors and violators, and the establishment of a special court to safeguard public security.

Declaring 8 Sawr [28 April]—the arrival date of the members of the Jehadi Council, headed by esteemed Prof. Hazrat Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, head of the Jehadi Council and the embodiment of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, and the transfer of power to the Jehadi Council—as a public holiday and a festival of the victory of the Muslim nation of Afghanistan.

Declaring 14 Sawr [4 May] a public holiday marking the arrival date of the leaders of the Jehad organizations as well as remembrance day for martyrs and disabled.

The Leadership Council approved the general amnesty declared by the jehad parties and the Islamic State as far as God's right is concerned [reference to concept in Islamic law: God's right as against individual (third party) right].

The Leadership Council similarly resolved that every state wishing to extend assistance to Afghanistan should do so through the central government.

Rabbani Praises 'Vanguard Of Islamic Revolution'

LD0605165492 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 0935 GMT 6 May 92

[Message by Professor Borhanoddin Rabbani, leader of Jam'iyat-e Eslami, issued on 5 May, read by Engineer 'Abdol Qayum Malekzad, head of the Cultural Committee of the Supervisory Council of the North—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Brothers and sisters: The peace and blessings of God be upon you. [preceding sentence in Arabic] Today is an important and decisive day in the history of our Islamic revolution. As has been said, our Muslim nation's jehad is really a miracle of the 20th century. All of us witnessed great changes that could not be imagined by anyone. As a result of this jehad the bloodthirsty empire of communism and its filthy ideology were shattered. Countries that lived in the chains of communism for years eventually achieved freedom. Today those countries not only are free countries, they have opened up a new horizon for the Islamic world. Today in our political, economic strategies and our Islamic ideology's strategy, Muslim republics in Central Asia have an important and major position.

Certainly, in light of these various changes that have occurred in different parts of the world, the jehadi renaissance has opened its way to different countries. The oppressed people of Palestine, in a crisis of defeat and submission, once again felt the new world renaissance we note. Even Palestinian children lined up for battle with pieces of rock against shells, and a major change emerged in the interest of Palestinians' jehad and resistance. For years the oppressed nation of Kashmir has been deprived of everything, and never had a hope. Neighboring countries also expected that one day an uprising would emerge in that harshly battered nation, but at God's blessing such a thing happened. We hope that, God willing, with the establishment of an Islamic government in dear Afghanistan, Kashmir will take effective steps in the path of its liberation movement.

Dear brothers, changes also have occurred in the non-Muslim world which no one can deny. Even when the Berlin Wall was being removed, the prime minister of Germany, while carrying out the first visit to the wall, expresseed thanks to the Afghan nation. The nation of Afghanistan really removed the Berlin Wall, and gave freedom to Eastern Europe. These are all facts to which the world testifies.

That is most important, since Muslims have no central government, thus far lack nuclear power, and their economic powers have not served their political and military strategies as should have been the case. Nevertheless, we see once again that the Muslim world has acquired a special importance. Fear overwhelms the enemies who once again, in their impure view, think Islam threatens the Western world and Western civilization. [words indistinct] We see that the matter that is very serious for them is Islam; that the threat of fundamentalism in the world of Islam threatens the security of the world. Whatever the domination of fundamentalism, their basic aim is Islam and the glory of Islam and the invincibility of Islam. In such critical circumstances, in the subjective and objective circumstances of the world, the Islamic revolution has succeeded in Afghanistan. Eventually Muslim mojahedin, our epic-making commanders, victoriously crushed all filthy nests of spying and the remnants of atheism and aggression in Kabul.

This victory is a very great one, and I congratulate you all—all vanguards of the Islamic revolution and mojahedin of Jam'iyat-e Eslami who have broken the trenches of infidelity and atheism as successful victors—on this victory.

Dear brothers, this success came at a time when we were noticing bitter and painful phenomena. In this movement of salvation the epic-making mojahedin of the Republic of Islam once again gained strength while, after the cessation of foreign aid and after the political and military strategies of neighboring countries changed, and after the cessation of humanitarian aid and various other pressures directed at the mojahedin, the military victory of the mojahedin was held to be no more than an impossibility, madness, and imagination.

Those words were uttered by many countries and politicians. They said the mojahedin were no longer capable of taking an effective military step. Really all assistance was stopped. Not only did military and humanitarian assistance stop, but also the wording of the propaganda of friends of the jehad and of those who stood by and supported the mojahedin changed for some days, and completely anti-mojahedin propaganda and political stances were taken. We wonder what kind of plots were hatched by the enemies.

In such circumstances when everywhere was engulfed by despair, the only problem-resolving source was the saga of the United Nations, and the visiting efforts of Mr. Sevan. Mojahedin were warned that if they did not take their position in the fastmoving circumstances of the political process, they would miss the train, and that the train was moving fast. Not only did we hear those words from the UN envoy, but many politicians of the Islamic and friendly countries also repeated it. They all said that henceforth there was no way but a political solution through the United Nations.

In a situation in which despair prevailed everywhere, an explosion of light emerged from the north of the country and the lightening was followed by thunder. A great line started from Balkh, the mother of cities. With this victory and success all political and propaganda standards changed. Once again the world realized the fact that the mojahedin were still the decisive element in determining the political and military fate of Afghanistan and that the mojahedin are capable of winning the greatest victories in the most difficult conditions. This victory started with a very meticulous and planned move, which on the one hand was a very heroic military act and on the other hand was a very profound political method that emanated from the brains of our mojahedin. They gained the support of a number of the oppressed people of the country who were misled by Najib, a dirty pawn of communism, and who realized that this cunning magician had deceived them and that they no longer should act in a way that stood against the nation. Military changes in the country accelerated, and taking advantage of these circumstances the mojahedin did not limit their victories to the mother of cities. Military activities peaked. Victorious mojahedin forces conquered Bagram, Parvan, Charikar, Jabal os Saraj, and (Tapa-e Sorkh), and then entered Kabul's security belts.

Once again, however, faithful and aware mojahedin of Jam'iyat-e Eslami of Afghanistan, whose aim in fact was the salvation of the country, had many issues and problems on their minds with regard to the attack on Kabul. They did not want to enter the city of Kabul without a correct program because they feared that by entering the populous city of Kabul its residents, of whom only a small number belonged to families of communists, would suffer damage. Therefore they did not want to occupy the city of Kabul with heavy attacks. Rather they set up their security post around Kabul and put the ruling regime under severe pressure. Pressure increased every day and its graph went up. Eventually the regime's aides had no way but to declare solidarity with the mojahedin and to turn to their people and repent. It was seen that a number of Army officers declared cooperation with mojahedin; they brought down the last filthy pawn of communism, Najib. They conveyed their message of surrender to the mojahedin, especially to dear commander Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, through their minister of foreign affairs, and said that the city of Kabul and the state institutions and administrations were waiting for you. Kind commanders of Jam'iyat-e Eslami—whose aim in fact has been the victory of Islam, not accession to the throne of Kabul and obtaining a crown and throne, who wanted Islam to rule, the unity of Afghanistan to be protected—despite

suffering all kinds of pains they sent a message to the brothers based in Peshawar saying they were waiting for the formation of their Islamic government.

Our fighting brethren, in particular our dear commander, Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, and his other fighting brethren and the rest of our dear fighters in various provinces of the country, from the Pamir Peaks to Omolblad [mother of the cities] of Balkh and from Omolblad of Balkh to the Helmand flatlands and Qandahar, and from the fertile valleys of Khaybar to the difficult pass of the historic land of Ghowr and Bamian and, finally, in all regions and provinces of the country, all our dear commanders who conquered the provinces, one by one, were awaiting the formation of an Islamic government by the jehad leaders.

The commanders of Jam'iyat-e Eslami could easily have entered Kabul and set up a government, and then could have proclaimed that the Jam'iyat-e Eslami had attained victory and set up a government. This was a natural thing. There is a religious saying: the booty belongs to those who have suffered loss. They could have done such a thing easily, but they did not do this. They were waiting for a joint decision by all mojahedin and all groups and their slogan was: We fight alone, but govern with others. They tolerated alone difficulties and heavy losses during victory or fighting. When the time came for the formation of a government, however, they waited for the announcement of a government in Peshawar.

You were witness to the statements and claims when we were making advances. They [not further specified] have made unpermitted statements. After conquering Mazar-e Sharif, which was the key to other victories in other parts of the country, they said that the Jam'iyat-e Eslami of Afghanistan wanted to divide the country and separate the north from the south. They raised the language issue and raised the issue of clan and race. Whereas all are witness to this fact that Jam'iyat-e Eslami is not linked to one particular race.

If we have a hero—Ahmad Shah Mas'ud and Mohammad Esmael—from the Tajik tribe, we also have famous commanders from our Pashtun tribes, such as Mola Naqibollah Akhonzada from Qandahar and Ra'es Boghra from Helmand, who are the most outstanding commanders in the country as a whole. Our dear commander in the north, Mohammad 'Aref Khan, is one of the well-known commanders. This brother of ours belongs to the Pashtun tribe. Even in Balkh, which was a place where one could easily be accused by the accusers, Mohammad Golab, the sub-governor and general commander of this place is from the Pashtun tribe. Those who incorrectly say such things do not know that the Pashtun brethren are no less in number than the non-Pashtun brethren in view of percentages in Jam'iyat-e Eslami.

The Muslim mojahedin were and are witness to the fact that Jam'iyat-e Eslami Afghanistan has proved during the history of Jihad that they really are the guarantor of national unity and no other thing, except Islam, has a place in its political thought. One of the clear reasons is the issue of the Fayzabad seizure: You all know that the regime's forces in various parts of Afghanistan put their weapons down without resisting, but that the Tajiks of Setam-e Melli [National Oppression; a Maoist group] in Badakhshan resisted the Tajik mojahedin of Jam'iyat-e Eslami of Afghanistan in such a way that as a result 50 mojahedin and two of our best commanders were martyred; 70 others were injured. Some 30,000 Tajik elements who were against the belief and aspiration of Jam'iyat-e Eslami were captured.

Once again I want to say that your mojahedin brethren would not have hastened in conquering Kabul; time and again, the heroic commander, Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, (?sent) messages saying that Kabul is ready to be taken, and we are waiting for the Islamic government to come and take power.

Our military strategy was not to enter Kabul with weapons. Qazi Huseyn Ahmad, leader of Jam'iyat-e Eslami of Pakistan, asked me the day before if Brother Ahmad Shah Mas'ud could establish direct contact with Hekmatyar by telephone. Brother Mas'ud spoke for one-and-a-half hours with Hekmatyar. Mas'ud was telling him: Mr. Hekmatyar, why are you worried? Why do you threaten to attack Kabul city? Are you not aware that with your attack other armed men would also enter Kabul city? Fighting would flare up and innocent children, elders, and women would be killed—our youths would be killed. Are you not aware that the world is watching? Why give the enemy such an unrighteous document on these last days of victory and success? Why should such an action take place by the mojahedin? As a matter of fact, I do not want power. With the exception of the freedom of the country, I did not and do not have any other objective. I am asking you chiefs to introduce your government as soon as possible.

He said: Hekmtayar, I am afraid that, God forbid, a situation might come about in which clashes might take place between mojahedin. Who can carry this burden of shame? My hope is that you send your government immediately. I have no other demand. I am not entering Kabul city. Because I fear that mojahedin will enter Kabul from all sides in a disorderly manner and create confusion. However, he, Hekmatyar, insisted that we were definitely entering Kabul city.

After all, his forces entered Kabul city. Of course, exploiting the situation, firebrand elements of the Khalq [People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan] Party: Aslam Watanjar, Manukay Mangal, and Raz Mohammad Paktin, who are dangerous elements and well-known killers, took positions in the Interior Ministry. Other individuals sharing their opinion were supplied with weapons. They engaged in subversion, killing, and plunder. Brother Ahmad Shah Mas'ud still sent me consistent messages saying that the security of Kabul was faced with danger. The honor of the people was violated. Plunder and looting began. What should I do? What will

be my responsibility before God and before the nation? On the one hand, if we do not act and the honor and life of people are violated, we feel responsible.

I put the matter to the Leadership Council. They immediately decided that a committee from the Kabul commanders should start work for maintaining the security of Kabul. All security forces, the Army and other mojahedin, were asked to obey the orders of brother Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, who is the minister of defense of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, in maintaining security. After that, the orders of the Leadership Council, as a group [word indistinct], reached brother Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, he had to occupy strategic centers in Kabul city in order to carry out those orders. All strategic centers of Kabul city were occupied. The people were invited to continue their normal life.

However, it is a matter of regret that adventurist elements did not refrain from firing missiles at crowded areas of the city and dozens of our brothers and sisters drowned in blood. It is really a matter of regret.

However, we believe that conspiracy and intrigue will succeed no longer. As far as it depends on our dear commanders, we ask all groups and all mojahed brothers not to forget the sensitivity of the time. In these conditions, when the world of Islam is celebrating the conquest of Kabul, it is not worth it to change all this happiness in the world of Islam and the Islamic ummah to sorrow once again through undue actions and unworthy approaches. Sincere Muslims throughout the world of Islam are imbued with happiness.

Every action against the decisions of the Islamic state henceforth is rebellion, and the crushing of rebellion is a religious matter.

Dear brothers, I ask all brothers, with a feeling of responsibility before almighty God, before history, and before the future generations of Afghanistan, to join their brothers and not to allow atheist elements or opportunistic Communists to exploit these conditions and, in the name of backing this or that nation, drag us into other squabbles. I believe that the faithful commanders, at whatever rank, will not obey the (?unauthorized) orders of every individual. Because [verse in Arabic] we believe that behind those hands firing missiles at Kabul city are Communist and atheist elements and not Muslim Mojahedin. We warn such subversive elements that they should await the court of God's justice.

Undoubtedly, the Islamic government will surely pursue and investigate their actions.

However, we ask sincere brothers in Hezb-e Eslami not to allow further clashes to occur between mojahedin. An Islamic state has been established here. They are also a part of the Islamic government. They should not allow criminal and killer elements using the cover of Hezb-e Eslami to become a cause of ill repute for the mojahedin and even of Hezb-e Eslami. A great part of all these great historic changes in the country and all these great conquests which have taken place in different parts of Afghanistan have taken place through the sincere members and heroic commanders of Jam'iyat-e Eslami-e Afghanistan. If Qandahar was conqured, brother Mola Naqibollah Akhndzada had a decisive role; if Gereshk and Lashkargah was conqured, Moawlawi Ata Mohammad, a commander of Jam'iyat-e Eslami of Afghanistan, had a decisive role, and in other provinces Jam'iyat also proved its role.

What message do we have to the world after the establishment of an Islamic government? What message do we have for the world of Islam? In what form should we play our role in the realization of aspirations that are in the conscience of Muslim nations and that Muslims are awaiting?

Dear brothers, we should take a decisive role in the future of the Islamic world. Whether the enemies of Islam want it or not, today an Islamic government has been formed in Afghanistan. However, this government is undoubtedly going to face a great wave of hostility. A variety of conspiracies are awaiting this government. You have witnessed the first sinister phenomenon of these conspiracies in recent days. Why have missiles been fired from various directions on Kabul city contrary to the announcement of an Islamic government?

However, many conspiracies are awaiting the Islamic state, and the enemies undoubtedly think that, if an Islamic government is established in Afghanistan, a fundamentalist movement will threaten Central Asia and that the Islamic movement will become internationalized. These fears exist and the enemies of Islam are planning. We should not be unaware.

Newly Appointed Ministers Commence Work 6 May

LD0605192592 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] The acting ministers to the various ministries who were appointed yesterday by esteemed Professor Hazrat-e Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, chairman of the Jehadi Council and Embodiment of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, have commenced work today.

Talking to the ministries' employees and workers the acting ministers first congratulated them about the Islamic jehad and mojahedin victory. They also spoke about the military and political situation, improvement of the security situation in the country, and the measures taken by the Islamic State to meets the need of the people.

The acting ministers asked the state employees and workers to carry on and continue their work for the service of the country and people with feelings of responsibility and security. The acting ministers said that the difficulties stemming from the security situation in Kabul city will be removed with the help of Almighty God and work of the mojahedin brethren and efforts of

the Muslim people of Afghanistan. It is high time that you and us heal the wounds of the people on the basis of the instruction of the holy religion of Islam, and start work for the construction and development of the homeland.

The officials of the various departments of the ministries then spoke and gave assurances that they will work harder than ever with profound perception of the objectives of the jehadi and Islamic State, and with a perception of honesty, devotion, and Islamic fraternity; and that they will spare no effort for the realization of Islamic jehadi aspirations as well as serving the people and homeland.

UN Envoy Sevan Departs Kabul for Islamabad

LD0605174692 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] His Excellency Benon Sevan, deputy and special envoy of the UN secretary general who came to Kabul to meet the jehad leaders, left Kabul for Islamabad this afternoon. His Excellency Benon Sevan was seen off at Kabul airport by the head of the Foreign Ministry's protocol department and the deputy director of the UN section in this Ministry.

India

Russian Minister's Talks With Faleiro Detailed

BK0605121792 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0927 GMT 6 May 92

["The spokesman's briefing regarding call by Dr. G.E. Burbulis, secretary of state of the Russian Federation, on Minister of State for External Affairs Eduardo Faleiro dated 4th May 1992"]

(Text] While briefing newsmen, the spokesman [words indistinct] secretary of state of the Russian Federation, Dr G.E. Burbulis and MOS (EA) [minister of state for external affairs] Eduardo Faliero had an hour long discussion today. They both expressed gratification that the visit had a positive impact and has had a positive influence on bilateral relationship between the two countries.

Dr. Burbulis said that he was satisfied that the principal goal of the visit had been achieved since it had given an appropriate impetus to multi faced relationship between our two states. He spoke of the necessity of democratising the emerging new world order. Dr. Burbulis said that Russia was committed to moving from a system of hegemonic states trying to dominate the world to an international system where there were no small or big powers.

While agreeing with him, the minister of state for external affairs, Eduardo Faleiro, said that since the United Nations was the main international forum, it would be appropriate for democratisation of the new world order to begin with democratisation of the UN. The MOS amplified by saying that a democratised UN, including expanded Security Council, must be committed to non- arbitrary, non-selective treatment of all nations.

The two leaders also spoke about the NAM [Nonaligned Movement]. The MOS said that relevance of the NAM today lay in its commitment to ensure that East-West confrontation which marked years of cold war does not give place to a North-South confrontation where developed and developing worlds work at cross purposes. The Russian secretary of state agreed that the NAM had every right to exist in changing world context and that Russia agreed that the movement had relevance in today's world.

The two leaders spoke in general terms about changes in the erstwhile Soviet Union with special reference to the situation in Central Asian republics. Dr. Burbulis said that in this area, geopolitical axis of Russia and India shared common goals and faced common dangers. In this context, he singled out dangers arising from religious fundamentalism. He agreed that India and Russia could usefully consult and remain in contact on this important subject.

Responding to his remarks, the MOS agreed that religious fundamentalism and extremism of any sort was alien to India and that, regrettably, India was a victim of terrorism which had religious and fundamentalist dimensions. It was terrorism, supported and financed by our neighbour to the west. He said that this was the principal reason for aberration in the pattern of India's relations with her neighbouring countries which were otherwise with exception of Pakistan, excellent. The MOS underlined India's desire for normal and cooperative relations with Pakistan based on the framework provided by the Simla Agreement.

Dr. Burbulis responded by saying that Russia was in favour of a bilateral solution to the Kashmir problem and that Russia detested and decried the practice of terrorism in any part of the world.

As far as bilateral relations are concerned, Dr. Burbulis said that as a result of his visit, he and his colleagues, working with their Indian partners, have strived for and been able to establish better parameters for bilateral relationship. He said that it was important to achieve regional and world security, while continuing our important cooperation in the field of defence. He explained that in restructuring of the Soviet economy, where they were supplementing a military oriented infrastructure with greater emphasis on civilian industry, it was important to remember that none of these changes wont be made in a manner which would be detrimental to the security of Russia or to the security of Russia's partners.

Dr. Burbulis also said that while Russia was building a foreign policy which eschewed granting of special preference to regions or countries it would never build its relations with another country on the foundations which did not fully take into account the dignity of Russian

state and total exclusion of dependence on third countries. He said that he wished to underline this fact since there was some anxiety expressed in India about Russia's relations with the third countries.

It was important to continue to work on legal basis for our bilateral relationship and to take into account obligations that Russia had inherited from the erstwhile Soviet Union as well as to take into account the present realities whereby all aspects of our past relationship which were worthy of preservation were fully preserved and were cherished.

The MOS said that while India has taken a number of unilateral steps to try and alleviate difficulties that have been experienced by Indian students, numbering 2000 [in Russia], he expressed the hope that Russian authorities would do something to help these young people. Dr. Burbulis assured the MOS (EA) that a special decree had been prepared for looking after interests of foreign students and the Russian Foreign Office and dean of foreign diplomatic corps in Moscow have been in close touch on this issue, the Indian ambassador in Russia was also in touch with the Russian Foreign Office. Russia will do all that is possible to alleviate difficulties not only of Indian students, but of students from other foreign countries as well.

Responding to a question regarding India's attitude towards Russia, the spokesman stated that we appreciate that Russia's foreign policy had been undergoing a change: we understand the context of recent changes, but we feel that this visit of the Russian secretary of state has helped to remove many of the difficulties that had cropped up as a result of those changes.

Authorities Question Suspects in Attack on Envoys

LD0605174592 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1454 GMT 6 May 92

[Excerpts] New Delhi, 6 May, (KUNA)—The Indian authorities are conducting intensive questioning of a number of suspects in the incident of the opening of fire at the charge d'affaires of the Kuwaiti embassy in India, Mit'ib Al-Rumayh. [Passage omitted]

Police said that unknown persons followed the car which was carrying al-Rumayh and Counselor at the Egyptian Embassy Muhammad Najib on their return from an Arab diplomats' meeting in the Indian capital. The police made clear that unknown persons had fired several shots in the direction of al-Rumayh when he was about to enter the building of the Kuwaiti Embassy. The bullets hit the back of the car and the Kuwaiti diplomat escaped injury.

Al-Rumayh disclosed that he himself and the Kuwaiti ambassador to India, Dhirar Razzuqi, used to receive threats by the telephone from unknown persons in Arabic, English, and Indian languages. [Passage omitted].

A counselor at the Kuwaiti embassy, Mustapha al-Marzuq, was the victim of an assassination at the hands of unknown persons in 1989. The Indian authorities did not find the perpetrators.

PLO Denies Involvement

BK0705061792 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 7 May 92

[Text] The heads of Arab diplomatic nations in New Delhi held an emergency meeting yesterday and strongly condemned the attack on the Kuwaiti charge d'affaires and an Egyptian diplomat. As reported, two youths on a motorcycloe shot at the Kuwaiti Embassay car carrying both the diplomats in Southwest Delhi on Tuesday afternoon.

The PLO has denied its involvement in the attack. In a press release, the Embassy of the State of Palestine said that the PLO condemns all kinds of terrorism and flays all attempts to put the blame on the organization for the said attack.

Iran

Khamene'i Address Condemns U.S. Policies

LD0605122292 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 6 May 92

[Speech by Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, to hajj officials on 6 May; place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted]

There are two fundamental aspects to the hajj. One relates to the personality of the pilgrims, and the other concerns the Muslims as a whole, the policy of the Muslim world, and the stand taken by the Islamic ummah. [passage omitted]

The second point concerns the Islamic ummah. Well, the hajj is a place for man to show himself, make a committment, and decide to get closer to God; for Muslims to rediscover each other, not just each other's bodies, but each other's hearts and thoughts; for various nationalities to take on the form of one Islamic ummah; to feel united; resolve differences; learn of each other's problems; and seek the fundamental problems of the Islamic ummah. [passage omitted]

Today, the fundamental problem in the life of Muslims is the domination of world arrogance. Your disavowal is for that purpose. In those days disavowal referred to pagans who worshipped false gods. Today it refers to the ringleaders of blasphemy and arrogance in the world. They are the symbols of paganism and blasphemy today. If in those days it meant disavowal of inanimate idols, or small and insignificant living idols, today it means

disavowing the Great Satan, America. It is disavowal of that evil power, that plague which has befallen the world Muslims and non-Muslims among meek and oppressed nations, that is world arrogance. Disavowal is the most important thing a nation, particularly a Muslim one, should consider and do if it wishes to find a solution to the problems. [passage omitted]

Look at the world today and see what is happening. Of course, the United States and the U.S. regime alone do not reside on the throne of arrogant power, but its most important pillar today is the United States. Other nations are ensnared by that regime and enslaved by those policies. See what they do with the world Muslims today. In every part of the world, as soon as there is a slight movement, or a heart beat from Muslims, even if it lacks progressive Islamic direction, they confront it and are hostile to it.

Look at the problems of Palestine today, the occupied Palestine. They have usurped the land of Palestine for nearly 44 years, for 44 or 45 years, ousting the Muslims from that land. They have done so in an oppressive and barbaric manner against the Muslims. The usurper Zionist regime is engaging in so many anti-human moves and is guilty of so many blatant offenses and sins that it creates hatred in every human being. Yet the United States does not give up protecting that regime. The United States is increasing protection to that regime everyday. What does that mean? What kind of human rights violation can surpass that one?

Yet, the U.S. claims to be a supporter of human rights. In connection with human rights they make speeches, they lay down policies, they determine their stands with other regimes. A certain regime is blacklisted because, they [the U.S.] claim that it does not observe human rights. They blasklist one regime and then they remove another regime from their blacklist and this way they manipulate the whole world. That way they make fun of humanity. Is there a plague more dangerous than that for mankind?

Sometimes in their remarks they refer to the Islamic Republic saying that their condition for [restoration] of a relationship with the Islamic Republic is that it must observe human rights. There is a wide gap between what we say and what the U.S. say in that regard. We say the one who must set conditions for relations is not you. The Iranian nation is your enemy; the Iranian nation hates you because of capital sins your regime has committed.

Now they come and say that if we do such and such they will restore ties. It is we who will not establish ties. So long as you commit so much injustice in the world, so long as you protect the usurper Israel regime, so long as you support corrupt regimes in the world, so long as you are hostile to regimes which are for their people and for their independence, then we are not ready even to look at you.

It is not you who should set conditions.

They say they are supporters of human rights. We say that in principle you do not accept human rights; you do not believe in human rights. You believe in the rights of corporations—American big capital.

You believe in the illegitimate interests of the American regime all over the world. You have nothing to do with human rights. That was your record yesterday, that is your record today. There are America's domestic issues and the problem of the blacks. There are tens of millions—perhaps 50 millions or more, I cannot remember—black Americans. They are deprived of human rights—living inside America's towns under the shadow of a government which brands itself as the standard-bearer of human rights; which prompts wise and intelligent people in the world to sneer at them. To whom were they protesting? Those thousands of Americans who, these past days, rose to vent their anger in more than 30 towns of America? They were protesting to you, the American regime. For violation of their rights whom were they complaining against? You are violating rights of your citizens under your own feet simply because their guilt is that their skin is black. And yet you talk of human rights?

For years you have been slaughtering the oppressed peoples in various parts of the world. What did you do in Vietnam? Several hundred thousand American forces went there to Vietnam to defend one of the most corrupt regimes. Was the then regime of South Vietnam a supporter of human rights? Or was it one of the most corrupt regimes? They killed not only combatants but women and children. They killed so many children and so many women, they killed so many farmers and destroyed so many farms and buried so many others; you call this human rights?

In this very Iran they supported the oppressive, corrupt, and violent Pahlavi regime for years on end. Was the Shah a supporter of human rights whom you supported him with all the means at your disposal?

They supported Saddam Husayn so much— the very person whose violence is filling the pages of American magazines and propaganda today! They supported him so much—they gave him support, they gave him technology and money, they gave him food stocks. They did not say a single word about his notorious crimes. Halabjah was bombed by chemicals in front of the eyes of all the peoples of the world; women, men and children fell down to their death within a moment as poison gas rained on them and yet the Americans did not utter a word. Is that really support for human rights? Nobody in his right senses will believe such a standard-bearer of human rights.

How simple-minded must be those governments who retreat from their own words and change their stances because American propaganda says so. Down with it if it says so. [Ghalat mikoneh in juri migeh]. They are themselves the greatest criminals of the world. They are the ringleaders with the blackest faces in the world. What

right do they have to say so? They use [human rights] as a weapon to hit any government that they do not accept—whether correctly or incorrectly.

The Muslim ummah should realize this. The nations should decide on this matter, brothers and sisters. The nations should stand up to this bullying. The governments are not doing so, they cannot. Unfortunately, many governments in the world do not have the power to stand up to it because they are isolated from the people. They should take a stand. It is they, the nations, who, if they take a stand, could not be challenged by any power. The nations should stand up to it. Where can the nations learn this, except at hajj. That is what disavowal means.

Disavowal is a great Islamic movement. Taking part in disavowal is a definite must. No one should shirk from taking part in that great humanitarian, Islamic, divine and political movement. That is the spirit and concept of hajj. That is the global aspect of hajj which concerns the fate of the Islamic ummah. [Passage omitted]

I recommend to the beloved brethren; both you, the respected officials, and the individual Iranian pilgrims, to show this message—which is the message of worship of God and blaspheming [kofr] the idol—to show this by word and deed. Disciplined behavior, proper behavior, Islamic behavior, behavior indicating the worship of God, behavior accompanied by order. It should not be such that as a result of a dispute over a small fatwa of little importance brethren become disunited with each acting in a different way. There everything must depict unity and alliance. The imam, may God be satisfied with him, recommended, ordered that you should take part in congregational prayers. I also request you to. [passage omitted]

Order on the axis of this very organization which today is in charge...[changes thought] I must thank our beloved brother, Mr Reyshahri [hajj supervisor] because of the proper administration of affairs and organization here. Also all those involved, all the brothers who, since many months ago—rather since last year—have been carrying on the affairs of hajj in the headquarters and various departments. They have assisted, made programs and formed policies. I must thank them all. And implementing the plans is what is necessary. [passage omitted]

Criticizes 'Conditions' for Resuming Ties

LD0605112192 Tehran IRNA in English 1044 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Tehran, May 6, IRNA—Leader of the Islamic revolution Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i said here Wednesday that domination of the oppressor powers over Muslims is the main hurdle.

"The Iranian nation is hostile towards the U.S. Administration and hates it because of repeated sins it has been committing," said the leader in reference to the wishful thinking of the American statesmen on restoration of ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran and the conditions they are setting for resumption of relations.

"The one who must set conditions is not the U.S., as long as the U.S. continues to do injustice in the world, as long as it supports the usurper Zionist regime and other corrupt regimes and as long as it is hostile towards the popular and independent governments, we are not even willing to look at your (American) direction," said the leader.

Addressing a group of officials in charge of holding the forthcoming hajj rituals, the leader touched on the "Deliverance From Pagans" rally, to be held during the hajj rituals in the holy city of Mecca in June. He said Muslims must seek deliverance from the leaders of the oppressor powers, the U.S. in particular, "because at present the U.S. is the main pillar of ominous arrogant power which has trapped the nations in its policies."

Ayatollah Khamene'i described the ever-increasing support of the U.S. Administration for the anti-human, usurper and oppressive Zionist regime as the best illustration of violation of rights of mankind. "The ruling clique in America by misusing the issue of human rights, is ridiculing the world public opinion and under the pretext of supporting human rights is putting the opposing governments in its black list."

"They claim to be supporters of human rights. Our answer is that you do not believe in human rights at all. You only believe in the rights of American companies, giant capitalists and your illegitimate rights throughout the world. While tens of millions of Americans are denied their rights, your claim of being a supporter of human rights is ridiculed by the conscious people of the world."

The leader elsewhere in his speech referred to the U.S. massacre of innocent women, children and farmers in Vietnam and its crimes in other parts of the world and said the American Government has been trampling upon the rights of the blacks in America just because the color of their skin is black.

Turning to the hajj ceremonies, the leader said that participation in the deliverance from the pagans is an unquestionable religious duty. He also stressed the need for performing the rituals in an orderly manner.

Reportage on Tripartite Talks, Karabakh Dispute

Rafsanjani on 'Islamic Duty' to Karabakh

LD0605174892 Tehran IRNA in English 1448 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Tehran, May 6, IRNA—President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here Wednesday that the Iranian people have "great affection" for the newly independent Muslim republics of the former Soviet Union.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani told visiting caretaker president of the Azerbaijan Republic, Yagub Mamedov, that

the Islamic Republic was firm in its decision to help restore peace and calm to the disputed Karabakh region as an "Islamic Duty" and because Iran itself suffered a lot in the 8-year imposed war.

Mamedov said the people and government of Azerbaijan are "grateful" to the Islamic Republic for leading the mediating efforts between their country and Armenia to settle the Karabakh issue.

He expressed hope that during his coming talks with an Armenian delegation due in Tehran today headed by Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan, would produce positive results so that the final step towards solving their difference would be taken in Iran.

The Azerbaijani acting president called for expansion of cooperation with Iran such spheres as politics, culture, oil and gas industry, transportation and health care.

Ter-Petrosyan Arrives for Summit Meeting

LD0605154392 Tehran IRNA in English 1449 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Tehran, May 6, IRNA—Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan arrived here today and was greeted at the airport by President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Upon arrival Ter-Petrosyan hailed Iran's mediatory efforts in the Karabakh conflict.

He said different countries and international circles had so far made mediatory efforts in this regard, however, only Iranian efforts had born positive results.

Ter-Petrosyan said Armenia and Azerbaijan believe in Iran's good-will, and consider the Islamic republic's position "totally neutral and in line with the preservation of the rights of both sides."

"In the wake of the success of the Iranian mediatory efforts, I am sure that the world will also welcome these efforts, and the (UN) Security Council and Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) have already called for coordination with the Iranian efforts," Ter-Petrosyan said.

President Rafsanjani also expressed hope that the Iranian efforts would bear result, and would block the way to the interference of the countries who want to be present in the region for their own interests.

Referring to his talks with Acting President of Azerbaijan Yagub Mamedov earlier in the day, Rafsanjani said positive grounds have been prepared for the establishment of peace, and that trilateral talks, to be held here Thursday, would hopefully bear positive results.

Ministers of foreign affairs, energy, telecommunications, and road are accompanying Ter-Petrosyan in his visit.

Mamedov: Conditions for Settling Problem

NC0605162492 Paris AFP in English 1547 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Tehran, May 6 (AFP)—The presidents of Azerbaijan and Armenia arrived here Wednesday for a summit aimed at ending their conflict over the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Yakub Mamedov, interim president of Azerbaijan will confer with Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan and Iranian leader 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani in talks that were expected to open later in the day.

"The first step for the three parties will be the signature of a document in which the two warring factions pledge not to violate a ceasefire," Mamedov declared, adding that Iran should oversee compliance with truce conditions.

An Iranian-brokered ceasefire in February failed to take hold when fighting resumed days later in Nagorno-Karabakh, a mainly Christian Armenian enclave seeking independence from Muslim Azerbaijan.

Mamedov listed an exchange of prisoners, the return of residents to the enclave, the withdrawal of military forces and the reopening of roads as conditions for a settlement.

Some 2,000 people have been killed in the four-year conflict, which has defied mediation by the United Nations, France and Turkey.

Mamedov, who held an initial round of talks with Rafsanjani after his arrival, said the people of Azerbaijan and Armenia—both republics in the former Soviet Union—were neighbors "and must sooner or later settle their dispute."

Rafsanjani warned that "in the absence of peace, these two republics will be unable to start rebuilding."

Ter-Petrosyan of Armenia said Monday he had no wish to examine the status of Nagorno-Karabakh, arguing that the enclave had opted for independence in a December referendum and that its future was a matter for direct negotiations with Azerbaijan.

Velayati, Mamedov Discuss Peace Talks

LD0605173892 Tehran IRNA in English 1620 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Tehran, May 6, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and the acting President of the Azerbaijan Republic Yaqub Mamedov today discussed Iran's mediation efforts issue on the eve of the tripartite talks to solve the Karabakh issue.

The two also discussed mutual relations, with Mamedov appreciating Iran's efforts to solve regional problems.

Mamedov and Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan are in Tehran for talks sponsored by Iran to end the Karabakh conflict.

Iranian Mediation Termed 'Truly Impartial'

LD0605211792 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1930 GMT 6 May 92

[Excerpt] During his talks with Armenian acting President Levon Ter-Petrosyan, our country's president, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, expressed the hope that effective steps will be taken during this visit toward the settlement of the Karabakh problem, the establishment of peace in the Caucasus region, and the expansion of the two countries' ties.

In this round of talks between the Iranian and Armenian presidents, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressed concern about the continuation of conflict in the Karabakh region, saying: Our objective in mediation is to save the people from the vagaries of war and to establish peace and tranquillity between the two countries, which must go through the post-independence reconstruction stages. The establishment of peace and tranquillity will be beneficial for the whole region and for neighboring countries. We hope that the Tehran session can be a turning point for a permanent end to the conflict in the area.

The Armenian president also spoke. Referring to the Armenian people's expectations of the visit, he said: We hope the visit will be a turning point in the expansion of ties between the two countries. On the Karabakh issue, Mr Ter-Petrosyan said: During the time Iran has concentrated its efforts on establishing peace in Karabakh we have become certain that your country is truly impartial in this issue and has no aim but to find a fair settlement for this problem. For this reason international circles have assessed Iran's mediation as positive.

The Iranian ministers of foreign affairs, economic affairs and finance, and oil, as well as the Armenian ministers for foreign affairs and energy, and several officials from the two countries' parliaments also were present. [Passage omitted]

Ahmad Khomeyni Meets Armenian President

LD0705103792 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 7 May 92

[Excerpts] Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan, who is in our country in order to take part in the tripartite talks to resolve the Karabakh conflict, went to the shrine of the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, laid a wreath, and paid his respects to the great soul of Imam Khomeyni, God's blessings be upon him.

He then met Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni. Referring to Iran's mediatory efforts to resolve the Karabakh issue through peaceful avenues, Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni expressed the hope that Iran's mediatory efforts to resolve the dispute between Azerbaijan and Armenia would be effective, and that with Iran's help, the two neighboring countries would be able to reach an understanding, that the countries in the region would live in peace and tranquility, and enjoy goodneighborly relations in the interests of their peoples. [passage omitted on Khomeyni praising Iranian Armenians]

Thanking the Iranian authorities for their hospitality, Mr. Ter- Petrosyan said: We have learned that Iran plays a completely impartial role in the Karabakh conflict and seeks ways that are in the interests of the two conflicting sides. That is a very important factor toward the fulfilment of Iran's mediatory mission.

He added: Armenians coexist fully with others in nearly all Muslim countries. If they have any disputes with others they are not from a religious viewpoint, but have political reasons. Today, too, the Karabakh conflict has nothing to do with religious differences, and dates back to the policies of the former Communist system.

He stressed: With Iran's help we and Azerbaijan must resolve the existing disputes and differences. We are certain that Iran's efforts in the matter will be successful, and that peace, stability, and tranquility will be restored in the region. [passage omitted]

Rafsanjani To Attend Central Asian Summit Meeting

LD0605175392 Tehran IRNA in English 1425 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Tehran, May 6, IRNA—President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani is to participate in the summit meeting of Central Asian Republics in Ashkhabad on May 10, the presidential office announced here today.

The three-day visit is in response to the invitation of Turkmenistan President Safarmurat Niazov which was submitted to Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani by Turkmen deputy president on last Monday.

Karrubi—Hizballah Like 'Beacon in the Dark'

LD0605173592 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] The secretary general of the revolutionary movement of the Lebanese Hizballah [Shaykh Nasrallah] held talks today with Majlis Speaker Mr Karrubi, and conveyed a report on the current situation in Lebanon, especially in the wake of the martyrdom of Sayyid 'Abbas al-Musawi. He stressed the continuation of the struggle against the Zionist regime on the basis of the guidelines of his eminence the imam [Khomeyni], may Almighty God be satisfied with him.

Mr Karrubi said: Under conditions where all have somehow been led to compromise, under conditions when the ill-omened shadow of America and arrogance spreads everywhere and reinstates its domination by its direct presence in the region and through the reactionary

Arab states under the cover of the peace conference, the existence of Hizballah is like a beacon in the dark. Certainly there are difficulties in the way that require extraordinary perseverance and struggle.

Pakistan

Jamaat-i-Islami Breaks Away From Ruling Alliance

BK0505182292 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] In Pakistan, the Jamaat-i-Islami, one of the major constituents of the ruling Islami Jamhoori Ittehad [IJI], has decided to severe its links with the ruling alliance. This was announced by the parliamentary party leader of the Jamaat, Mr. Liaqat Baluch, in Islamabad today. He said the step has been taken in view of the disagreement over several policy decisions of the Nawaz Sharif government. This is the third major group to break away from the ruling alliance over the past six months.

Our Islamabad correspondent, Suresh Chopra, reports that the Jamaat-i-Islami's disassociation will not affect the stability of the Nawaz Sharif government as the main party comprising the IJI and the Pakistan Muslim League have sufficient parliamentary strength.

Sharif Faults Jamaat on Afghanistan, Wants Talks

BK0605152392 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, has invited the leader of the opposition in the National Assembly, Benazir Bhutto Saheba, to have mutual consultations and bring about a consensus on basic national issues. The prime minister is also writing similar letters to other opposition leaders in the near future to discuss matters of supreme national interest and try to arrive at a consensus. Talking to newsmen in Lahore today, the prime minister said he wants that political and democratic institutions in the country are run in an unhindered manner and the political parties who have got mandate of the people should serve them in accordance with their aspirations. The prime minister said he wanted Benazir Bhutto Saheba and other opposition leaders to play a positive role in the national politics in an effective manner. This was essential in a democratic setup. The prime minister was hopeful that the leader of the opposition would respond to his gesture of goodwill. He said we must hold national interests supreme.

Replying to various questions about Jamaat-i-Islami, the prime minister held the chief of Jamaat responsible for confrontation between Afghan mojahedin groups and killing of innocent people in Afghanistan after the fall of Najib government. He said the tussle between the two rival factions of mojahedin was intensified and there were more killing of people. The Pakistani nation would hold Qazi Hussain Ahmad accountable for all the tragic consequences. He said Qazi Hussain Ahmad himself came to him and threatened to block the way if Pakistan decided to send wheat for starving innocent people of Kabul.

Answering a question, the prime minister said that Jamaat-i- Islami had been a component of the IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad], but it was never a partner in the government. Jamaat-i-Islami dissociation with the IJI would not affect the running of the government, rather it would help carrying out government affairs in a better way.

In reply to another question, the prime minister said the IJI parliamentary party was meeting in Islamabad tomorrow and he would call upon the members to withdraw the bill of privileges.

Sharif, Russian Envoy 'Keen To Deepen Relations'

BK0605150492 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] The ambassador of Russian Federation, Mr. Viktor P. Yakunin, called on the prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, in Islamabad today and submitted proposals for the enhancement of mutually-beneficial relations between the two countries. The prime minister welcomed the proposals and stressed that Pakistan is keen to deepen relations with Russia in all fields.

Reportage on Situation in Afghanistan

Sharif Notes Continued Commitment

BK0605115892 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1100 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, has said the government will not compromise on its principles and strictly follow its firm commitments on all vital issues, including Afghanistan.

He was talking to newsmen after addressing the annual convocation of King Edward Medical College in Lahore this afternoon. He said his government keenly desires to have mutual consultations with the opposition to smoothly run national affairs according to the mandate of the overwhelming majority of the people.

Earlier, addressing the convocation, the prime minister said the government is giving top priority to provision of basic health facilities to the people. He underlined the need for catering to the health care needs of the rural areas where 75 percent of the population lives.

No 'Interference in Internal Affairs'

BK0605161392 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Pakistan has reiterated its desire for peace, solidarity, and harmony in Afghanistan and has made it clear that Pakistani territory will not be used for interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad today that Pakistan will continue its humanitarian assistance to the new interim mojahedin government in Afghanistan to enable it overcome its current difficulties and economic constraints. He said since the situation in Kabul has changed, the pace of the return of the Afghan refugees has picked up. The spokesman expressed satisfaction that right from the beginning Pakistan's policy on Afghanistan has been in the right direction and it has succeeded in realizing its basic objective.

Sharif on Policy, Talks With Leaders

BK0705104292 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1000 GMT 7 May 92

[Text] Speaking to newsmen in Islamabad after presiding over Islami Jamhoori Ittehad parliamentary party meeting today, Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif said the latest situation and events in Afghanistan indicate that Pakistan's policy on Afghnistan issue has been appropriate. In reply to a question, the prime minister said he will write more letters to political leaders inviting them for talks in order to establish an atmosphere of goodwill and cooperation in the country.